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TRIGGER POINTS TREATMENT IN SOCCER PLAYERS: AN INTEGRATIVE REVIEW

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Introduction: Soccer is the well-known collective sport, worldwide it is the largest in terms of number of players and in the last few years the number of new players has been increasing (STOLEN et al., 2005), characterized by competitiveness, physical contact and maximum involvement of the musculature. The practice of soccer can cause muscle trauma, with maximal and eccentric concentric contraction or muscle imbalance between agonist and antagonist leading to injuries such as Triggers Points (TP). Defined by Sharkey (2017) as a small nodule found in muscles and fascia resulting from trauma. Costa and Torres-Lacomba (2016) analyzed the musculature of soccer players and verified the presence of TP. Haser et al., (2017) investigated the effects of dry needling on the treatment of TP and concluded that there was improvement in pain and also observed a significant resistance of the thigh muscle strength of the players, Williams et al., (2017) showed benefits such as improvement of the pain by suction cup.

Conclusions: The research shows that unconventional therapies are used in the treatment of Trigger Points. Further studies of the treatment techniques of TP with soccer players are necessary.

