Abstract

The aim of this study was to compare the effects on the ergonomic hawker on the body with that of a currently used hawker. We hypothesized that the ergonomic hawker would improve physiological functioning and help to reduce the incidence of musculoskeletal disease. This pilot study only provided part of the hypothesis to be correct.

While respiration rate was the only significant variable, on average, all variables were higher after completion of the current hawker trial. These findings indicate that the ergonomic design has less physiological impact on the body when compared to the current design.

There was not as great a change after the ergonomic trial. However, when compared to the current trial, there was not as great a change after the ergonomic trial. There was a slight decrease in systolic blood pressure for unknown reasons. Figure 1 demonstrates the average changes seen.

Results

Regardless of device there was an increase in diastolic blood pressure, pulse, and respiratory rate at the end of each trial when compared to before. However, when compared to the current trial, there was not as great a change after the ergonomic trial. There was a slight decrease in systolic blood pressure for unknown reasons. Figure 1 demonstrates the average changes seen.

Discussion

The project was completed to fulfill requirements of OTD 6680, Residency: Organization and Ergonomics, 27(5), 315-320. Retrieved September 6, 2014.