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SYMBOLIC DYNAMICS METHODS IN THE EVALUATION OF BAROREFLEX ACTIVITY AFTER WHOLE-BODY CRYOTHERAPY

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ABSTRACT

The paper presents an example of symbolic dynamics methods application to evaluate baroreceptors activity in healthy men undergoing whole-body cryotherapy (WBC) [1]. A quantitative analysis of baroreceptors activity was made by using two time-synchronized biomedical signals: electrocardiogram signal (ECG) and systolic blood pressure signal (sBP). Both of them have been recorded by Task Force Monitor experimental system. The values of successive R-R intervals (RRI) obtained in the course of ECG recordings and sBP values were used to define the baroreceptors activity [3]. Based on the definition of physiological arterial baroreceptors reflex we defined the encoding key for intervals (RRI) and (sBP) [4]. We have introduced a frequency of appearing symbols connected with the baroreceptors activation as a measure of physiological activity of the baroreceptors [2]. Analysis of the designated frequencies before and after the treatment of WBC showed that the incidence of the sequences of symbols associated with the baroreceptors reflex is significantly lower after WBC. We also proposes a modified definition of baroreceptors activity that considers effective changes of RRI and sBP.

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