

## Original Research

# Assessment of the Length of the Index Finger and the Little Finger in Correspondence to Stature among the Female Population

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## Abstract

**Aim:** To investigate the length of the index finger and the little finger and their correspondence to stature among the female population.

**Materials and methods:** Participants included 50 females from a dental college. They were of age ranging from 17 to 30. The length of the little finger and the index finger were measured using vernier calipers from the tip of the finger to the distal end of the palm. The stature of an individual was measured using a standard measuring frame. All measurements were taken thrice and the average of the three measurements was used. All the measurements were tabulated and a linear regression equation was calculated using SPSS software.

**Results:** The correlation coefficient  $[r]$  for all fingers was found to be  $0.4 < |r| < 0.7$ . Hence the lengths of both index and little fingers of both right and left hands have a moderate correlation with stature.

**Conclusion:** Among the two fingers measured both the index finger and little finger of both the right and left hands had a moderate correlation in the estimation of stature in females.

**Keywords:** *Innovative, Stature estimation, Little finger, Index finger, Finger length*

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Stature is the height of an individual in an upright position. The stature of a person plays a significant role in the identification and significant forensic investigation [1]. It happens to be one of the most vital aspects of anthropological research as well as medical constitution and enactment [2,3]. During a forensic investigation, a dead body that was initially unidentifiable can be identified with the help of stature [4,5]. However, during a mass disaster, like hurricanes and earthquakes, the process of identification for everybody may be a challenge. Some of the body parts may be dismembered. Regarding this fact-finding process, different research of different depths has been conducted, mainly comparing the stature of an individual with the length of the index finger and the little finger [6].

While commencing this research, three of the many factors that affect the results include race, lifestyle, and age. Our team has extensive knowledge and research experience that has translated into high-quality publications [7-26]. This research was conducted to evaluate the length of the index finger and the little finger and their correspondence to stature among the female population.

## **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Participants included 50 females from a dental college. They were of age ranging from 17 to 30. After getting informed consent the length of the little finger (Figure 1) and the index finger (figure 2) was measured using a vernier caliper from the tip of the finger to the distal end of the palm. The stature of an individual was measured using a standard measuring frame. All measurements were taken thrice and the average of the three measurements was used. All the measurements were tabulated and a linear regression equation was calculated using SPSS software (version 23).



**Figure 1: Measurement of the length of the little finger**



**Figure 2: Measurement of the length of the index finger**

**RESULTS**

Table 1 shows the values of the regression equation for estimation of height (Y) from Finger length (X) in females, a and b are constant.

	<b>Right index finger</b>	<b>Left Index Finger</b>	<b>Right Little finger</b>	<b>Left little finger</b>
n	50	50	50	50
Mean of finger length (X in cms)	10.33	10.28	8.85	8.82
Mean of height (Y in cms)	163.48			
Correlation Coefficient	0.555	0.581	0.517	0.503
A	56.01	41.96	90.36	92.67
B	10.39	11.81	8.25	8.02

By using the data from table 1 the linear regression was calculated to be,  $Y = a + bx$

For Right index finger length,  $Y = 56.01 + 10.39X$ ,  $r = 0.555$ ,

For Left Index finger length,  $Y = 41.96 + 11.81X$ ,  $r = 0.581$

For Right little finger length,  $Y = 90.36 + 8.25X$ ,  $r = 0.517$

For Left little finger length,  $Y = 92.67 + 8.02X$ ,  $r = 0.503$

Where,  $x$  = Finger length in cm

$Y$  = Height in cm

Correlation coefficient  $[r]$  for all fingers was found to be  $0.4 < |r| < 0.7$  hence the length of both index and little fingers of both right and left hands has a moderate correlation with stature.

## **DISCUSSION**

In the past, there have been many studies have been carried out to estimate the height of a person by measuring the length of various bones [27,28]. This study is done on people from a dental college to determine the relationship between the length of the index and little fingers and the height of a person. Based on the results obtained, the estimation of stature by using long bones is much more accurate [29]. Tyagi et al however had a different result and suggested that the best finger to estimate the height of a person is by calculating the length of the index finger [30]. Hamill et al obtained results and observed that the correlation between stature and the fingers was accurate [31]. There was no bilateral variation of the right and left fingers. The study was limited to a small sample size of females only, in the future, larger sample sizes and measurements can be made using both genders.

## **CONCLUSION**

Stature estimation is usually done using various parts of the body and from the present study, the index finger and little finger of both the right and left hands had a moderate correlation in the estimation of stature in females.

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