

Effect of learning a new daily dance move on physical and mental well-being and on bonding

Submission date	Recruitment status	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
24/05/2017	No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date	Overall study status	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
25/05/2017	Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited	Condition category	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
25/09/2017	Mental and Behavioural Disorders	<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims:

Many studies show that physical activity is beneficial, but more recently it has been shown that even in people who exercise regularly, long periods of physical inactivity can cause diseases such as diabetes, metabolic syndrome, cardiovascular disease, certain cancers and even death. This study is looking at the effects of a program of movements specifically designed to be carried out throughout the day in the workplace to break up periods of physical inactivity. The aim of the study is to examine the acceptability of a movement program in the workplace, whether volunteers are able to take part and the effects of the program on physical and mental well-being.

Who can participate?

All staff in the Health Sciences Faculty of a Western Australian University who are able to access video attachments in emails.

What does the study involve?

Volunteers from an Australian Health Faculty workforce are recruited based on their willingness to take part and their having access to video e-mail links. During the four-week study period they receive a daily video-link showing the day's movement and a short blog about the benefits of moving. They are expected to carry out the movement alone or with colleagues at least three times per day, and add it to the previous movements of the week, gradually building up the week's choreography. Once a week they are expected to attend a group session to dance the week's choreography together to music. At the start and end of the four-week study period, participants complete questionnaires with questions about well-being and social interactions.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

Participants may benefit from being able to fit more physical activity into their day. There are no notable risks involved with participating.

Where is the study run from?

Curtin University (Australia)

When is study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

September 2016 to April 2017

Who is funding the study?

Curtin University (Australia)

Who is the main contact?

Dr Lucy Vincent

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Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

Dr Lucy Vincent

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

CSNM201701

Study information

Scientific Title

A Western Australian workplace well-being dance program for sedentary employees: a prospective cohort study with a qualitative component

Acronym

AWSOM

Study objectives

Learning a complex movement every day and dancing the weekly series of new movements with other participants will improve physical and mental well-being and group bonding.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Curtin University's Human Ethics Committee Approval, 03/10/2016, ref: HRE2016-0348

Study design

Prospective non randomised study

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Quality of life

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Physical and mental well-being and social bonding

Interventions

After signing consent forms and demonstrating understanding of the introductory information, participants are added to the emailing list and invited to fill in the pre-study questionnaire via a Qualtrics anonymous link.

The exercise intervention start date is fixed at 2nd January 2017 and the end date at 27th January 2017.

The exercise program has been designed to provide small daily physical coordination challenges that could be met by practicing for one-two minutes several times a day, wearing normal office clothes and making use of available spaces such as offices, coffee rooms, photocopy area, meeting rooms, corridors etc. From 2nd January 2017 participants receive a new short, dance movement video link every morning Monday-Friday by email (Tuesday-Friday the first week). The video of each day's movement demonstrates a 10-second segment of choreography designed to solicit the coordination of various neuromuscular groups. The series of five movement-segments from Monday to Friday made up a whole-body choreography that could be danced to music. Each week the new choreography corresponds to a different style of dancing: week 1, Disco; week 2, Bollywood; week 3, Salsa; week 4, Cha-Cha-Cha. An illustrated blog linked to a scientific article about the benefits of movement on body and brain functions is also sent every day to all participants at 2pm by email. Participants are told to practise the movement for one minute, once an hour. A Project Coordinator, present daily, normalises this new activity by practising the moves with participants in their working environment. A meeting is organised every Friday for all participants to come together to dance the choreography with music.

Data is collected via a previously evaluated questionnaire before or during Week One of the program and at the end of Week Four. The questionnaire collects information about the education, income, marital status, gender and age of the participant population as well as providing qualitative feedback. There are also questions designed to evaluate physical and mental well-being, personality traits, symptoms linked to depression and anxiety, self esteem, quality of life and connectedness to colleagues and the workplace. Participants access the questionnaires via an anonymous link to the Qualtrics website.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

Physical and mental well-being is measured using a questionnaire adapted for the purpose of this study but based on a previously used questionnaire at baseline and 4 weeks.

Key secondary outcome(s)

Subjective appreciation of the moves and their effects is measured using open-ended questions at the end of the study and using graded responses to a series of validated questions for well-being evaluation at baseline and 4 weeks.

Completion date

30/04/2017

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. All staff in the Health Sciences Faculty of a Western Australian University
2. Willing volunteers
3. No injuries
4. Have access to video attachments via email

Participant type(s)

Healthy volunteer

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Unhealthy
2. No access to online videos via email

Date of first enrolment

06/12/2016

Date of final enrolment

04/01/2017

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Australia

Study participating centre

University of Curtin

GPO Box U1987

Perth

Australia

6845

Sponsor information

Organisation

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine

ROR

<https://ror.org/02n415q13>

Funder(s)

Funder type

University/education

Funder Name

Curtin University of Technology

Alternative Name(s)

Curtin University, curtinuniversity, Curtin University - Perth, Curtin University, Perth, Australia, Curtin University Australia, Universitas Curtiniana

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

Universities (academic only)

Location

Australia

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are/will be available upon request from Lucy Vincent (Lucy.Vincent@curtin.edu.au)

IPD sharing plan summary

Available on request

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<u>Participant information sheet</u>	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes