

The effectiveness of manual therapy or pulsed shortwave diathermy (PSWD) in addition to exercise and advice for neck disorders; a pragmatic study in physiotherapy clinics

Submission date 15/07/2002	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 15/07/2002	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 05/01/2011	Condition category Musculoskeletal Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

D0566

Study information

Scientific Title

Acronym

The PANTHER study

Study objectives

To determine whether manual therapy or pulsed shortwave diathermy (PSWD), in addition to advice and exercise, provide better clinical outcome at six months than advice and exercise alone in primary care patients with nonspecific neck disorders.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Ethical approval was granted by the West Midlands Multicenter Research Ethics Committee and 10 local Research Ethics Committees.

Study design

Randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Non-specific neck pain

Interventions

1. Manual therapy: defined as hands-on, passive or active assisted movements/mobilisations, graded as appropriate to the patient's signs and symptoms
2. PSWD: delivered according to the best available evidence appropriate for UK clinical practice. It is not prescriptive but incorporates professional guidelines to good practice.
3. No additional treatment to advice and exercise

All subjects receive a standard package of home exercises, advice and an information leaflet about care of their neck based on the ARC publication. Further management of the patients in the no manual therapy/no PSWD group is based on this information.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Specified

Primary outcome(s)

Change in self-reported neck pain related disability at six months as measured on the Northwick Park Neck Pain Questionnaire.

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Participants' global assessment of change compared with baseline
2. Average pain severity over the past three days
3. Severity rating of main problem
4. Number of days lost from paid employment
5. Co-interventions e.g. visits to general practitioner (GP), use of analgesia
6. Quality of life (EuroQoL EQ-5D) and 12-item short form health survey (SF-12)

Completion date

31/12/2002

Eligibility**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Males and females aged 18 years and over
2. Clinical diagnosis of neck pain and/or stiffness, including unilateral referred pain into the arm
3. No consultations for this problem with health care professionals other than the Primary Health Care Team in the previous six months
4. Ability to understand and to cooperate and capable of giving written informed consent

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Weight loss
2. Fever
3. Progressive neurological signs including bilateral arm pain
4. Evidence of muscle weakness or disturbance in normal sensation
5. History of malignancy
6. Inflammatory arthritis
7. Polymyalgia rheumatica
8. Osteoporosis or gross structural or neurological abnormality affecting the neck
9. Contra-indications to the study treatments (e.g. patients on anti-coagulants)
10. Any injury awaiting a compensation claim (e.g. deceleration or industrial injury)
11. Pregnancy

Date of first enrolment

01/09/2000

Date of final enrolment

31/12/2002

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Primary Care Sciences Research Centre

Keele

United Kingdom

ST5 5BG

Sponsor information

Organisation

Arthritis Research Campaign (ARC) (UK)

ROR

<https://ror.org/02jkpm469>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Charity

Funder Name

Arthritis Research Campaign (UK)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**IPD sharing plan summary**

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type

[Results article](#)

Details

Results

Date created

15/04/2005

Date added

Peer reviewed?

Yes

Patient-facing?

No