

# Patient Partners with Back Pain

<b>Submission date</b> 10/07/2002	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 10/07/2002	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 16/09/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Signs and Symptoms	<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**  
D0580

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

**Acronym**  
PPBP

**Study objectives**

The hypothesis was that teaching students about back pain using patient partners would lead to improvements in clinical skills and examination performance compared to students taught using traditional methods. 4 patient partners were trained how to teach students about back pain. The effect of this teaching was assessed quantitatively by looking at student exam performance in an OSCE station on taking a history of a patient with back pain. Qualitative information using questionnaires and focus groups was also obtained.

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Not provided at time of registration

**Study design**

Randomised controlled trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Other

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Back pain

**Interventions**

Four patients were selected from the Whittington Hospital NHS Trust routine rheumatology out-patients clinics. They participated in a training programme, which consisted of 2 full day intensive workshops followed by 4 weekly half-day workshops.

The last workshop incorporated a training Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE). The training programme was designed to include:

1. History taking and examination of the back
2. The anatomy of the spine and related structures
3. Red flags in back pain
4. Management of back pain problems in the UK
5. General teaching skills and group facilitation.

Patient partners (PPs) are now teaching the students. They teach for 1.5 h in weeks 2 and 4 of a 5 week block. They teach alternate groups of 15 students each as they rotate through the firms of the year 3 clinical course.

Evaluation questionnaires are being collected from students and PPs.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome(s)**

Performance in OSCE exam station.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Changes in student confidence and skills in taking a history from a patient with back pain.

**Completion date**

31/08/2003

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

Suitable patients with mechanical back pain were selected for training. Selection criteria included:

1. Clinical features characteristic of the condition
2. A background of healthcare, education, or both disciplines
3. A stable physical and psychological condition
4. An ability and willingness to learn and teach.

Other attributes included were reliability, good communication skills, literacy, and fluency in English and, an understanding of their condition and ability to express themselves.

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

Does not match inclusion criteria

**Date of first enrolment**

01/11/2001

**Date of final enrolment**

31/08/2003

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

United Kingdom

England

**Study participating centre**  
**Academic Centre for Medical Education (ACME)**  
London  
United Kingdom  
N19 5LW

## Sponsor information

**Organisation**  
Arthritis Research Campaign (ARC) (UK)

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

## Funder(s)

**Funder type**  
Charity

**Funder Name**  
Arthritis Research Campaign (ARC) (UK)

## Results and Publications

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

**IPD sharing plan summary**  
Not provided at time of registration

### Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/04/2006		Yes	No