

# The effect of the spinal mobilization in subjects with acute low back pain

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| <b>Submission date</b><br>11/03/2015   | <b>Recruitment status</b><br>No longer recruiting     | <input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered    |
| <b>Registration date</b><br>23/03/2015 | <b>Overall study status</b><br>Completed              | <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol                    |
| <b>Last Edited</b><br>15/10/2020       | <b>Condition category</b><br>Musculoskeletal Diseases | <input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan   |
|  |   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results          |
|  |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data |

## Plain English summary of protocol

Plain English summary under review

## Contact information

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## Additional identifiers

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

Diffusion of water within lumbar intervertebral discs after a single session of postero-anterior spinal mobilization in subjects with acute low back pain

**Study objectives**

The objective of our research project is to study the effectiveness of a single session of postero-anterior (PA) spinal mobilization of lumbar vertebrae in patients suffering from acute low back pain. The evaluation of the effectiveness of the PA will be mainly based on the analysis of MRI diffusion-weighted images and the computation of the apparent diffusion coefficient (ADC). Our main hypothesis is that in vivo diffusion of water within lumbar intervertebral discs will be increased at least at the level of the PA pressure.

**Ethics approval required**

Old ethics approval format

**Ethics approval(s)**

Saint-Luc Hospital and Departmental Ethics Committee (2014/07AOU/419), 06/10/2014, ref: B403201421675.

**Study design**

Non randomized single-center trial

**Primary study design**

Interventional

**Study type(s)**

Treatment

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

Low back pain (LBP). By definition, LBP is a lumbar pain localization, between the twelfth thoracic vertebra (Th12) and lumbosacral junction, with radiating pain in the gluteal area or towards the knee.

**Interventions**

During data collection, each subject was assessed by two therapists. The first therapist filled in the Visual Analogue Scale for pain and 2 questionnaires with the subject (Saint-Antoine and DN4). The second therapist, carried out various musculoskeletal clinical tests (flexion, extension and lateral flexion of the trunk in standing) and a neuro-dynamic test (SLUMP test). Then, a first MRI scan of the lumbar region of the subject was carried out. After this first MRI, a spinal mobilization type PA (Maitland) was carried by the second therapist. To complete the data collection, a second MRI scanner, identical to the first, was carried out on the subject within an hour after the spinal manipulation. During this time, all questionnaires (except DN4) and clinical tests are again carried out by the two therapists.

## **Intervention Type**

Procedure/Surgery

## **Primary outcome(s)**

We used the diffusion-weighted sequences to quantify the "micro" movements of water molecules within the intervertebral discs (IVDs) of the lumbar spine. The apparent diffusion coefficient (ADC) provides the image of the mobility of water molecules.

## **Key secondary outcome(s)**

1. VAS: The visual analogue scale is a slider that allows the subject to self-evaluate the pain using a cursor. The patient moves the cursor to the end of "no pain" to the end "worst pain imaginable". On the back of the slider, the therapist can evaluate the pain felt by the subject, using a scale in millimeters.
2. Trunk flexion before onset of pain: Positioning the patient standing with knees extended. Asked to flex the trunk while specifying it to properly wrap one by one the vertebrae trying to go touch her toes until the onset of pain. Finally, the therapist noted measuring the distance between the fingertips and the ground.
3. Trunk extension before onset of pain: Positioning the patient standing knees, in strict extension. It then requests extension of the column leaving the arms hang vertically. The therapist must be careful to secure the patient's pelvis to look only at the extension of the column. Finally, the therapist noted measuring the distance between the fingertips and the ground.
4. Lateral flexion of the trunk before onset of pain: Measuring the distance over which the hand moves along the lower member in a lateral flexion of the trunk

## **Completion date**

30/08/2015

## **Eligibility**

### **Key inclusion criteria**

1. Acute low back pain
2. A period of less than 6 consecutive weeks of pain
3. More than 1 month without pain between the current and previous episodes of low back pain
4. The patient must have had more days without pain than days with pain in the past year

### **Participant type(s)**

Patient

### **Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Sex**

All

**Total final enrolment**

16

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. Aversion to spinal manipulation
2. Patients with chronic low back pain (pain for more than 3 months)
3. Radiating pain below the knees
4. Spine fracture
5. Spine Surgery
6. Osteoporosis
7. Pregnancy
8. Implanted devices that could interact with the magnetic field of the MRI
9. Intolerance using MRI (claustrophobia)
10. Safety issue related to the equipment's weight capacity (obesity)
11. Alcohol or drug abuse, mental illness or lack of cognitive ability

**Date of first enrolment**

07/10/2014

**Date of final enrolment**

30/08/2015

**Locations****Countries of recruitment**

Belgium

**Study participating centre**

**HELHa (Haute Ecole Louvain en Hainaut)**

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Belgium  
6061

**Sponsor information****Organisation**

Haute École Louvain en Hainaut

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/03sfp2d76>

**Organisation**

GEPTO A.S.B.L

**Organisation**

Siemens s.a. - Healthcare

**Organisation**

GHdC a.s.b.l.

**Funder(s)****Funder type**

Other

**Funder Name**

Investigator initiated and funded

**Results and Publications****Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan****IPD sharing plan summary**

Available on request

**Study outputs**

| Output type                     | Details | Date created | Date added | Peer reviewed? | Patient-facing? |
|---------------------------------|---------|--------------|------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <a href="#">Results article</a> | results | 29/05/2018   | 15/10/2020 | Yes            | No              |