

Reliability of a classification system for low back pain

Submission date 03/11/2013	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 23/01/2014	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 27/01/2014	Condition category Musculoskeletal Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

There is proof that the degree of agreement (inter-rater reliability) of Delitto's classification-based system for low back pain is moderate for physical therapists who are familiar with the classification system and the reliability is better in patients with a clear classification than in those with an unclear classification. This study aims to find out the inter-rater reliability of Delittos classification-based treatment for patients with low back pain.

Who can participate?

Adult patients with low back pain can participate in this study.

What does the study involve?

Patients were examined twice on the same day by two of three therapists with different levels of familiarity with the system. Patients were classified into one of four groups. The physical therapists were blind to the other's classification decision. To quantify the inter-rater reliability, percentages of agreement was calculated.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

There are no benefits from taking part in our study. There were hardly any risks for the patients.

Where is the study run from?

Patients were recruited in the Medical Back Neck Centre, an outpatient private practice in the Hague, Netherlands.

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

Patients were recruited from April 2009 to December 2010.

Who is funding the study?

Information not provided at time of registration.

Who is the main contact?

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Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Contact details

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

N/A

Study information

Scientific Title

Inter-rater reliability of a modified version of Delitto's classification-based system for low back pain: an observational study

Study objectives

To examine:

1. the inter-rater reliability of Delittos classification-based treatment system for patients with low back pain.
2. the influence of different levels of familiarity with the system.
3. the inter-rater reliability of algorithm decisions in patients who clearly fit into a subgroup (clear classifications) and who do not (unclear classifications).

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Medical Committee of the VU University Medical Centre in Amsterdam, 02/04/2008, reg. 2008\5

Study design

Observational single centre

Primary study design

Observational

Study type(s)

Diagnostic

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Low back pain

Interventions

Patients were examined twice on the same day by two of three participating physical therapists with different levels of familiarity with the system. Patients were classified into one of four classification groups. The physical therapists were blind to the other's classification decision. To quantify the inter-rater reliability, percentages of agreement and Cohens kappa were calculated.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

The prevalence of each of the four classifications was calculated for the three participating physical therapists.

Key secondary outcome(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

01/12/2010

Eligibility**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Low back pain as the primary complaint
2. With or without associated leg pain
3. Age between 18 and 65 years
4. Ability to read and write Dutch

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

Known or suspected serious low back pathology (e.g., cauda equina compression, fractures, severe radiculopathy, spondylolisthesis [grade 2 or more]), serious other diseases (e.g., metastases, AIDS, cerebrovascular accident), psychopathology, currently pregnant or given birth in the past 3 months and an inability to demonstrate any low back pain symptoms during mechanical examination

Date of first enrolment

01/04/2009

Date of final enrolment

01/12/2010

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Netherlands

Study participating centre

van der Boechorststraat 7

Amsterdam

Netherlands

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Sponsor information

Organisation

EMGO+ Institute for Health and Care Research, VU University Medical Center Amsterdam (Netherlands)

ROR

<https://ror.org/0258apj61>

Funder(s)

Funder type

University/education

Funder Name

EMGO + Institute for Health and Care Research, VU University Medical Center Amsterdam (Netherlands) no additional funding required

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration