

# Efficacy of conventional physiotherapy and manipulative physiotherapy in the treatment of low back pain. A randomised controlled trial

<b>Submission date</b> 10/10/2002	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
<b>Registration date</b> 10/10/2002	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Last Edited</b> 01/07/2009	<b>Condition category</b> Musculoskeletal Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
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## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**  
711003

## Study information

**Scientific Title**

**Study objectives**

The objective of this trial was to compare the relative effectiveness of two common forms of physiotherapy:

1. Conventional Physiotherapy (CPT): consists of the use of electrical current, heat, cold, exercise and massage, and
2. Manipulative Physiotherapy (MPT): primarily consists of passive joint mobilisation and manipulative techniques, in the short and long term.

### **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)**

Treatment

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

Low back pain

### **Interventions**

Subjects will be randomised into either the CPT or MPT groups:

1. CPT includes modalities such as heat and cold therapy, nerve stimulation, active exercises, hydrotherapy, etc.
2. MPT includes manual techniques such as passive mobilization and manipulative high velocity thrusts.

Patients in both groups also received lumbar traction.

### **Intervention Type**

Other

### **Phase**

Not Specified

### **Primary outcome(s)**

The main outcome measures were disability, health and pain. These parameters were assessed by the:

1. Aberdeen Low Back Pain Disability Scale
2. Current Perceived Health 42 (CPH42) Profile
3. Numerical Pain Scale (NRS). The NRS measures pain intensity from no pain to intolerable pain along an 11-point scale.

The research assistants, who were blind to the treatment routine administered the questionnaires at baseline, then at 3, 6, and 12 weeks (short term) followed by 6, 9, 12 months (long term) after physiotherapy commenced.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Not provided at time of registration

**Completion date**

01/09/2002

## Eligibility

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Patients are medically referred
2. Patients presented no contraindication to Conventional physiotherapy (CPT) and Manipulative (MPT) physiotherapy
3. Aged 18 to 65 years
4. Low back pain (LBP) not treated by physiotherapist in the previous month
5. Duration of LBP at least 2 weeks before attending physiotherapy
6. Patient's consent to participate in the randomised controlled trial
7. Patient's agreement to be followed up to 12 months post-commencement of treatment

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Healthy volunteers allowed**

No

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 years

**Sex**

All

**Key exclusion criteria**

Does not meet inclusion criteria

**Date of first enrolment**

01/01/2000

**Date of final enrolment**

01/09/2002

## Locations

**Countries of recruitment**

Hong Kong

**Study participating centre**  
Department of Rehabilitation Sciences

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Hong Kong

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## Sponsor information

### Organisation

Hong Kong Health Services Research Fund (Hong Kong)

### ROR

<https://ror.org/03qh32912>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

Government

### Funder Name

Hong Kong Health Services Research Fund (Hong Kong)

## Results and Publications

### Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

### IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration