A NEW PROTOCOL FOR SONOGRAPHIC EVALUATION OF RISK FACTORS FOR LOWER-EXTREMITY INJURIES TO INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY OF A BANDCIZER

Introduction Achilles tendinopathy (AT) is common and recalcitrant. A new ultrasound Achilles tendon assessment protocol has been developed as part of a large RCT. Ultrasound scanning has considerable operator dependence hence this study was designed to investigate inter-rater and intra-rater reliability in symptomatic individuals.

Method Twenty-three participants (18 with AT, 10 female) were recruited and independently examined by two clinicians of varied experience. Measures of Achilles thickness, neovascularity, plantaris position and size, intratendinous tears (ITT) presence, fascia crura tear (FCT) presence, calcification, insertional elements and ultrasound provocation tests were recorded. Inter-rater and intra-rater reliability was assessed using Intraclass correlation coefficients (ICC), Standard error measurements (SEM) and minimal detectable changes (MDC) along with percentage agreements.

Results Excellent levels of inter- and intra-rater reliability were found for thickness (Intra-rater ICC 0.88–0.99, SEM 0.15–0.37, Inter-rater ICC 0.87–0.98 SEM 0.22–0.60), neovascularity (Intra-rater ICC 0.96–0.96, SEM 0.28–0.40, Inter-rater ICC 0.91–0.94 SEM 0.49–0.50) and 100% agreement on insertional findings, ITT, FCT and US provocation tests. 67%–91% agreement was found on presence, position and size of the plantaris.

Conclusions The new protocol demonstrates excellent inter- and intra-rater reliability thus minimising operator dependence and is suitable for objective assessment. Further development of methods to identify the presence, position and size of the plantaris tendon is recommended.

RISK FACTORS FOR LOWER-EXTREMITY INJURIES AMONG CONTEMPORARY DANCE STUDENTS

Introduction Contemporary dance students are at high risk for injuries; a yearly overall risk of ≥60% with lower-extremity injuries as the most predominant musculoskeletal injuries. Therefore, the objective was to determine whether student characteristics, lower-extremity kinematics, and strength are risk factors for sustaining lower-extremity injuries in preprofessional contemporary dancers.

Materials and methods A prospective cohort study with 45 1 year students of Bachelor Dance and Dance Teacher was set up. At the beginning of the academic year, injury history (only lower-extremity) and student characteristics (age, sex, educational program) were assessed using a questionnaire. Lower-extremity kinematics [single-leg squat(SLS)], strength (countermovement jump) and height and weight were measured during a physical performance test. Substantial lower-extremity injuries (main outcome) during the academic year were defined as any problems leading to moderate/severe reductions in training volume/performance, or complete inability to participate in dance at least once during follow-up as measured with the Oslo Sports Trauma Research Center (OSTRC) Questionnaire. Injuries were recorded on a monthly basis using a questionnaire. Analyses on leg-level were performed using generalized estimating equations(GEE) to test the associations between substantial lower-extremity injuries and potential risk factors.

Results The 1 year incidence of lower-extremity injuries was 82.2%. Of these, 51.4% was a substantial lower-extremity injury. Multivariate analyses identified that ankle dorsiflexion during the SLS (OR1.25;95% CI,1.03–1.52) was a risk factor for a substantial lower-extremity injury.

Conclusions The findings indicate that contemporary dance students are at high risk for LE injuries. Therefore, the identified risk factor (ankle dorsiflexion) should be considered for prevention purposes.

TO INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY OF A BANDCIZER™ DEVICE TO EVALUATE ADHERENCE TO HOME EXERCISE (HEP) FOR ADULTS WITH SHOULDER PAIN

Introduction Exercise is an effective intervention for rotator cuff related shoulder pain (RCRSP). Self-report methods of exercise adherence are subject to bias. The BandCizer™ is a...
resistance band mounted device offering objective measurement of adherence. It is valid and reliable for measuring exercise quality (time-under-tension (TUT)) and quantity (number of repetitions) (Rathleff et al., 2013a and b). The aim was to objectively evaluate adherence (repetitions and TUT) to an exercise intervention for RCRSP, and compare with self-report diaries.

Materials and Methods Ethical approval was obtained. Adults (≥18 years old) with RCRSP (≥6 weeks) were eligible for inclusion. All participants provided written informed consent before being prescribed a 6 week home exercise programme. Participants were instructed to complete exercises daily, doing 10 repetitions per set with TUT of 8 s per repetition. Participants completed the NRS(pain) and SPADI questionnaire at baseline and 6 weeks.

Results 17 participants were eligible, with 11 participant data sets included in the analysis. There was on average 52% adherence to the prescribed TUT. The adherence to repetitions was superior at 76%, comparable to self-reported adherence (79%). Half (6/11) of the participants reported changes in pain and disability scores which exceeded the minimal detectable change.

Conclusion The BandCizer™ was effective in quantifying adherence to TUT and repetitions, with poor adherence to TUT noted. Despite varied adherence, the intervention still produced significant changes in pain and disability. These findings support the need for further research examining parameters of exercise dosage in relation to patient outcomes in RCRSP.

**Introduction** To study if Diabetes Mellitus (DM) affects the severity of a frozen shoulder prognosis.

**Methods** In this 2 year follow-up study patients from three participating hospitals with newly diagnosed frozen shoulder were consecutively included and asked to fill out a questionnaire: at time of diagnosis and at 6-, 12- and 24 months follow-up. The questionnaire included the Oxford Shoulder Score (OSS) and the Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) for both maximum and average daily pain. Furthermore, patients were asked to report on whether arthroscopic release had been performed. DM status was recorded for all patients, and patients not previously diagnosed with DM were invited to be tested with the HbA1c test.

**Results** A total of 235 patients were included, of which 34 were previously diagnosed with frozen shoulder. Patients with DM had similar OSS (p=0.22) and VAS score for maximum (p=0.46) and average (p=0.46) daily pain at time of diagnosis compared to patients without DM. Both groups improved in OSS and VAS score, but patients with DM had a worse OSS at 6 month (p=0.04), and 24 months follow-up (p=0.02); worse VAS score for maximum daily pain at 6 month (p=0.04), 12 month (p=0.03) and 24 months follow-up (p=0.03); and worse VAS score for average daily pain at 6 months (p=0.02), and 12 months follow-up (p=0.01)

Patients with DM had an increased probability of undergoing arthroscopic release (p<0.05).

**Conclusion** Patients with DM have a worse prognosis of their frozen shoulder, but all patients can expect gradually improvement during the 2 years following their diagnosis.