Supplemental Digital Content 3

Appendix C – Risk of bias assessment tool

CRITERIA	YES	NO	UNCLEAR	NA*	
Inclusion/exclusion criteria comprise clear information about:					
Duration of pain (stage i.e. acute, subacute)	✓				No points
Age of participants included (cut-off)	✓				
Diagnosis description				✓	No points
Final decision: Were inclusion/exclusion criteria clearly specified? Comment:	✓				
Clinical/demographical characteristics include full information about:					
Sample size	✓				
Mean age of participants		✓			2 points
Gender percentages	✓				
Mean pain duration at time of assessment(s)	✓				
Mean pain intensity at time of assessment(s)	✓				
Final decision: Were clinical/demographical variables fully described? Comment:	✓				
The recruitment procedure include information about:					
Clinical setting(s)				✓	
How patients have been recruited (e.g. consecutive, convenience sample)	✓				
Controls/comparators recruitment				✓	
Final decision: Was recruitment procedure specified and appropriate? Comment:	✓				
Somatosensory assessment:					
Was method used to assess somatosensory function standardized or validated? Comment:	✓				
Method of somatosensory assessment include information about:					
Number of examiner involved in the assessment (where appropriate)		✓			
Equipment/tool used	✓				
Comprehensive description of the procedure (where appropriate)	✓				
Number of assessments	✓				
Assessment sites	✓				
Final decision: Was somatosensory assessment fully described? Comment:	✓				
Blinding of assessment:					
Were examiners who carried out somatosensory assessment blinded to participant group or condition? Comment:			✓		Not noted 1 point
Controlled risk of known confounders:					
Confounders know to influence somatosensory assessment were evaluated	✓				
A description of how confounders have been handled was provided	✓				
Final decision: Were factors known to influence somatosensory assessment evaluated or controlled for? Comment:	✓				

*NA: not applicable

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