Information Statement for the Research Project:

Examination and Interventions for the Hips in the Management of Low Back Pain: A Survey of Physical Therapists

Document Version 1, dated December 15, 2015

You are invited to participate in the research project identified above which is being conducted by Scott Burns, PT, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT (PhD Candidate) from the School of Health Sciences at the University of Newcastle, A/Prof Suzanne Snodgrass, Prof Darren Rivett and Prof Joshua Cleland. The research is part of Scott Burns’ PhD studies at the University of Newcastle, supervised by Suzanne Snodgrass, Darren Rivett from the School of Health Sciences at University of Newcastle and Prof Joshua Cleland from Franklin-Pierce University in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA.

Why is the research being done?
The purpose of this survey is to provide an improved understanding of outpatient musculoskeletal physical therapists perspectives on the below items.

- Is the hip joint(s) commonly examined in individuals with LBP?
- Is the hip joint(s) targeted with interventions in individuals with LBP?
- What clinical findings lead clinicians to provide interventions targeting the hip(s)?
- What is the frequency of usage of interventions targeting the hip joint(s)?
- Which interventions are most commonly utilized in clinical practice?

Who can participate in the research?
You are invited to participate if you are a current physical therapist member of the Orthopaedic and Sports Sections of the American Physical Therapy Association.

Please note that you are ineligible to participate if you are not a physical therapist or member of the Orthopaedic or Sports Sections of the American Physical Therapy Association.

What would you be asked to do?
If you agree to participate, you will be asked to complete an online survey/questionnaire about your current clinical practice with regards to the examination and intervention directed at the hip for individuals with low back pain.

What choice do you have?
Participation in this research is entirely your choice. Only those people who give their informed consent will be included in the project. By completing this survey, your consent will be implied. Whether or not you decide to participate, your decision will not disadvantage you. If you do decide to participate, you may withdraw from the project at any time prior to submitting your completed survey. Please note that due to the anonymous nature of the survey, you will not be able to withdraw your response after it has been submitted.

How much time will it take?
The questionnaire/survey should take about 15-20 minutes to complete.
What are the risks and benefits of participating?

There are no anticipated risks associated with participating in this research. Whilst there are no anticipated benefits to you personally in participating in this research, the findings will contribute to the available literature on the subject which may lead to indirect benefits for your practice and knowledge as a physical therapist and your future patients.

How will your privacy be protected?

The collected data will be stored securely on password protected computers of the research team. Data will be retained for a minimum of 5 years as per University of Newcastle requirements. Due to the anonymous nature of the survey/questionnaire the responses you provide will not be identifiable.

How will the information collected be used?

The collected data will contribute towards Scott Burns’s PhD thesis and may be presented in peer-reviewed publications or conferences. Non-identifiable data may be also be shared with other parties to encourage scientific scrutiny and to contribute to further research and public knowledge, or as required by law.

You can access a summary of the results of the research visiting this webpage at the completion of the study approximately August 2016: http://cph.temple.edu/pt/faculty/scott-burns

Individual participants will not be named or identified in any reports arising from the project although individual anonymous responses may be quoted.

What do you need to do to participate?

Please read this Information Statement and be sure you understand its contents before you consent to participate. If there is anything you do not understand, or you have questions, please contact the researcher. If you would like to participate, please [click on the following link and complete the online survey]:

https://cph.temple.co1.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_6msyFlaEiNdbKUR

Completion and submission/return online survey will be taken as your implied consent to participate.

Further information

If you would like further information or for a full detailed version of the participant information statement, please contact us or visit the website: http://cph.temple.edu/pt/faculty/scott-burns

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Thank you for considering this invitation.

A/Prof Suzanne Snodgrass
Chief Investigator

Scott Burns, DPT
Student Researcher
Complaints about this research

This project has been approved by the University’s Human Research Ethics Committee, Approval No. H-[insert the protocol reference number which will be identified in the written acknowledgement of your application].

Should you have concerns about your rights as a participant in this research, or you have a complaint about the manner in which the research is conducted, it may be given to the researcher, or, if an independent person is preferred, to the Human Research Ethics Officer, Research Office, The Chancellery, The University of Newcastle, University Drive, Callaghan NSW 2308, Australia, telephone +61 (02) 49216333, email Human-Ethics@newcastle.edu.au.