



Bioengineering unit
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Invitation to participate in a research study

Dear Colleague,

The purpose of this e-mail is to invite people to participate in a research study. My name is Konstantinos Kaliarntas and I am a PhD student in the Bioengineering Unit of the University of Strathclyde.

The aim of my study is to investigate if supported treadmill walking using an under arm support harness has clinical benefits for people with Low Back Pain (LBP) and to compare the spinal kinematics of LBP patients and healthy people.

We would like to recruit some healthy volunteer participants to compare with our LBP patients. This letter is to invite you as a person who does not suffer from LBP to donate some of your precious time on this research project. However as participants have to be topless during the walking tests to allow us to measure their spinal movement we are only seeking to **recruit men** to take part in this study. Additionally volunteers should be **30-65 years old**.

The project involves two sessions on two separate days. One session will involve 30 minutes of normal treadmill walking and the other session 30 minutes of supported treadmill walking. Each session will last approximately 90 minutes. The total time required for each participant is 3 hours.

The study has been approved by the West Glasgow Research Ethics Committee and will be conducted in the Neuro-biomechanics Laboratory, Jordanhill Campus, University of Strathclyde. Insurance cover and research sponsorship is in place from the University of Strathclyde. You will be free to withdraw from the study without prejudice at anytime without giving a reason and this will not affect in anyway your relationship with the research team or the University. We will provide transport to the laboratory or if you prefer to make your own way their by car or public transport we will reimburse the travel costs.

I would be grateful if you could help me in the conduct of this research which may help to advance the intervention given to future LBP patients. Further information can be obtained by contacting me using the details given below.

Yours sincerely,
Konstantinos Kaliarntas

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