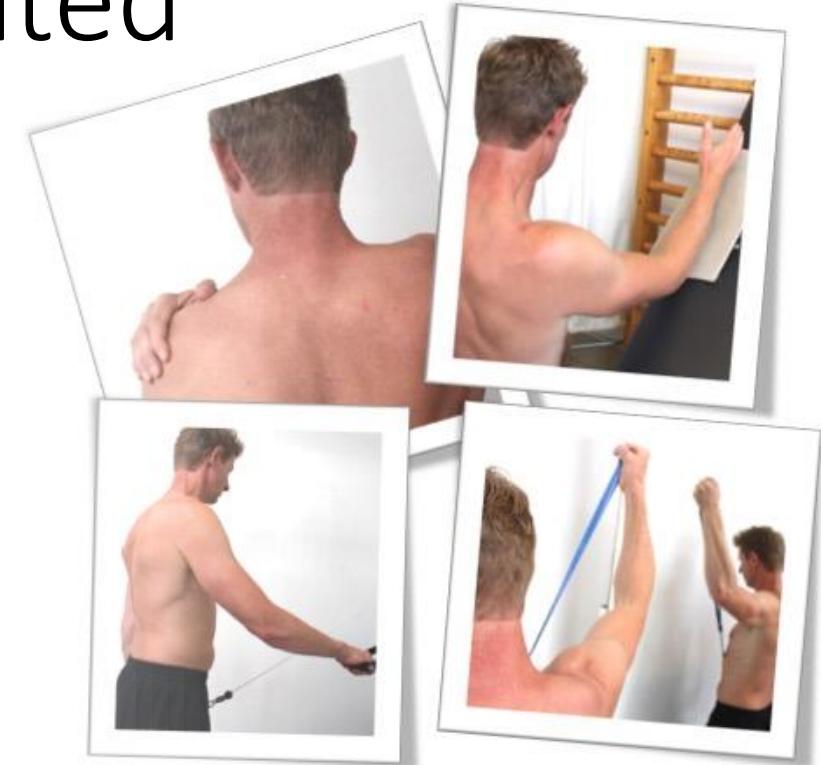


# Physiotherapy rehabilitation for patients with rotator cuff related shoulder pain

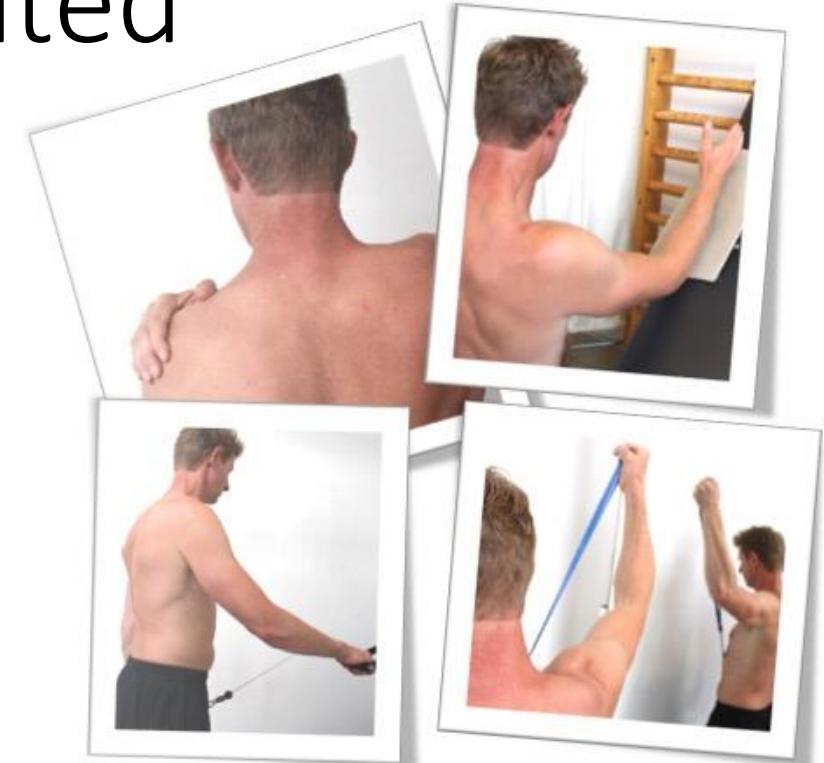
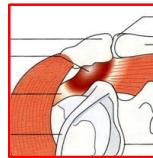
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Birgitte Hougs Kjær, PT, PhD  
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# Physiotherapy rehabilitation for patients with rotator cuff related shoulder pain

The PASE trial (tendinopathy)



The CUT-N-MOVE trial (tear)





## REVIEW ARTICLE

## A systematic review and pooled analysis of the prevalence of rotator cuff disease with increasing age



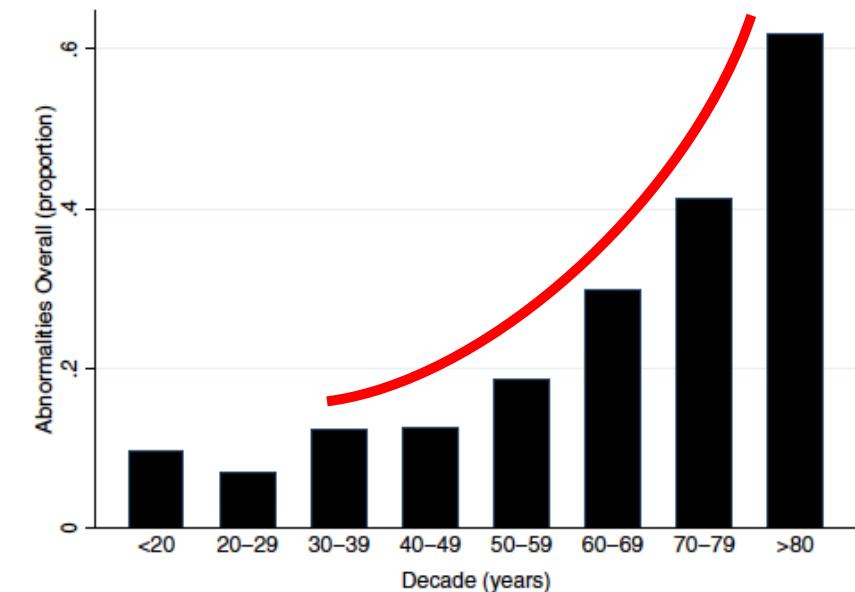
Teun Teunis, MD, Bart Lubberts, BSc, Brian T. Reilly, BSc, David Ring, MD, PhD\*

Orthopaedic Hand and Upper Extremity Service, Massachusetts General Hospital–Harvard Medical School,  
Boston, MA, USA

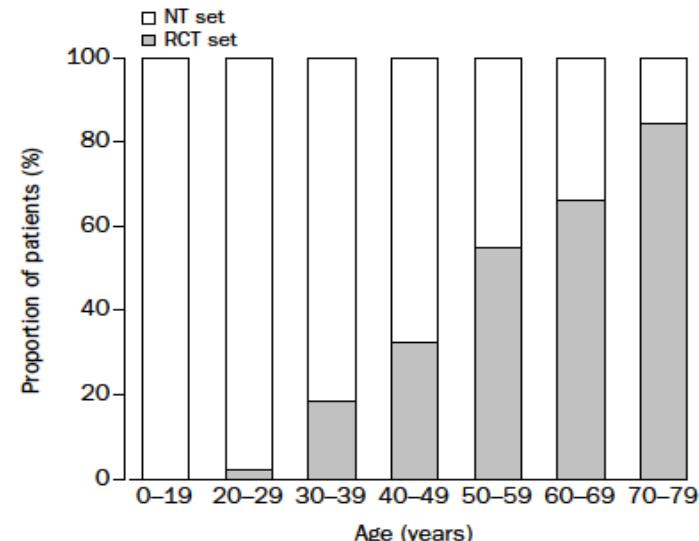
Age in years											
	No	Mean age	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-59	60-69	70-79	>80	Total	
Yamamoto	1366	57.9	0%	3%	7%	13%	26%	46%	50%	20.7 %	
Minagawa	664	69.5	0%	0%	0%	11%	15%	27%	37%	21.3 %	

Population of symptomatic and asymptomatic rotator cuff tear examined by ultrasound

## Prevalence in the general population increase with age

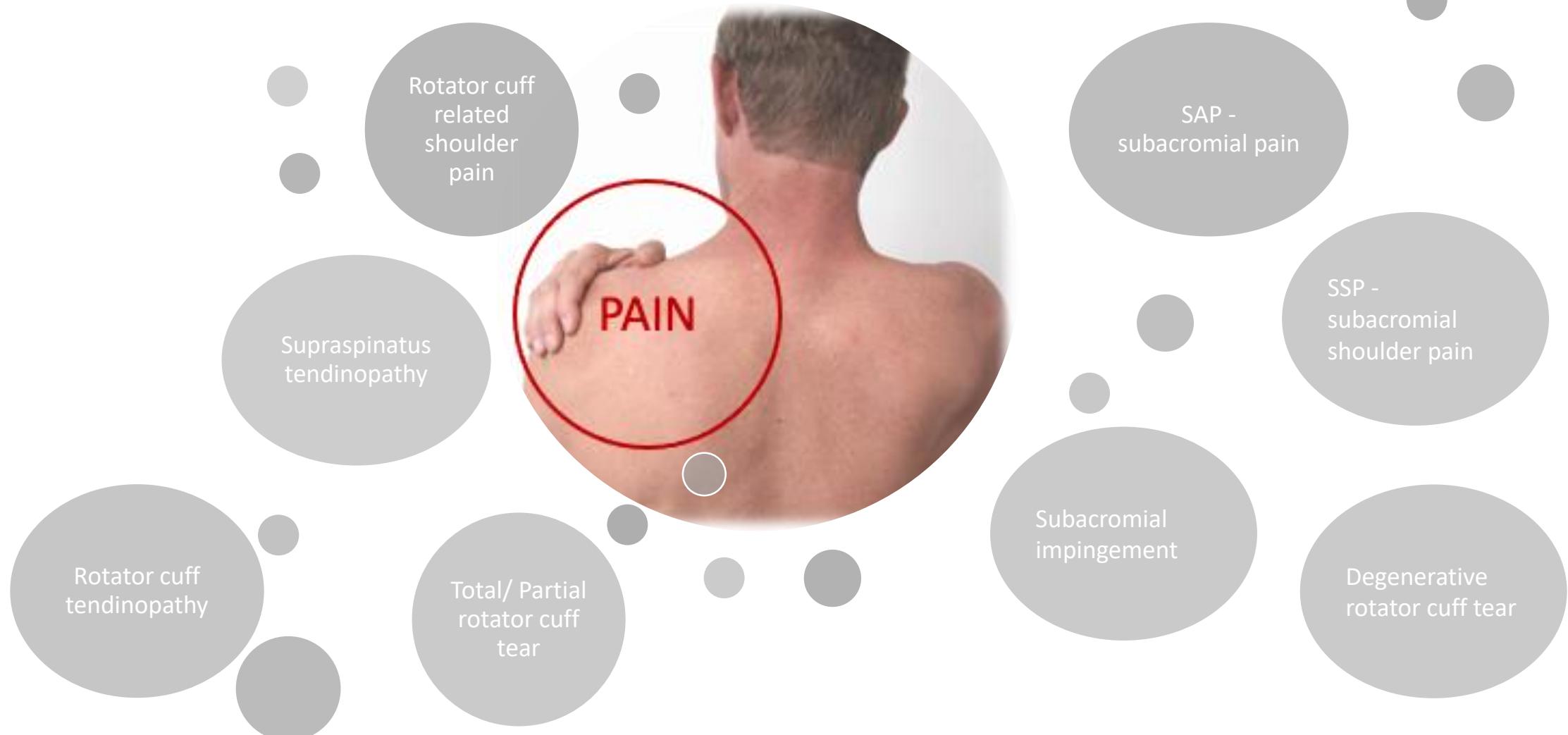


**Figure 2** Histogram of rotator cuff abnormalities by age group across all studies.

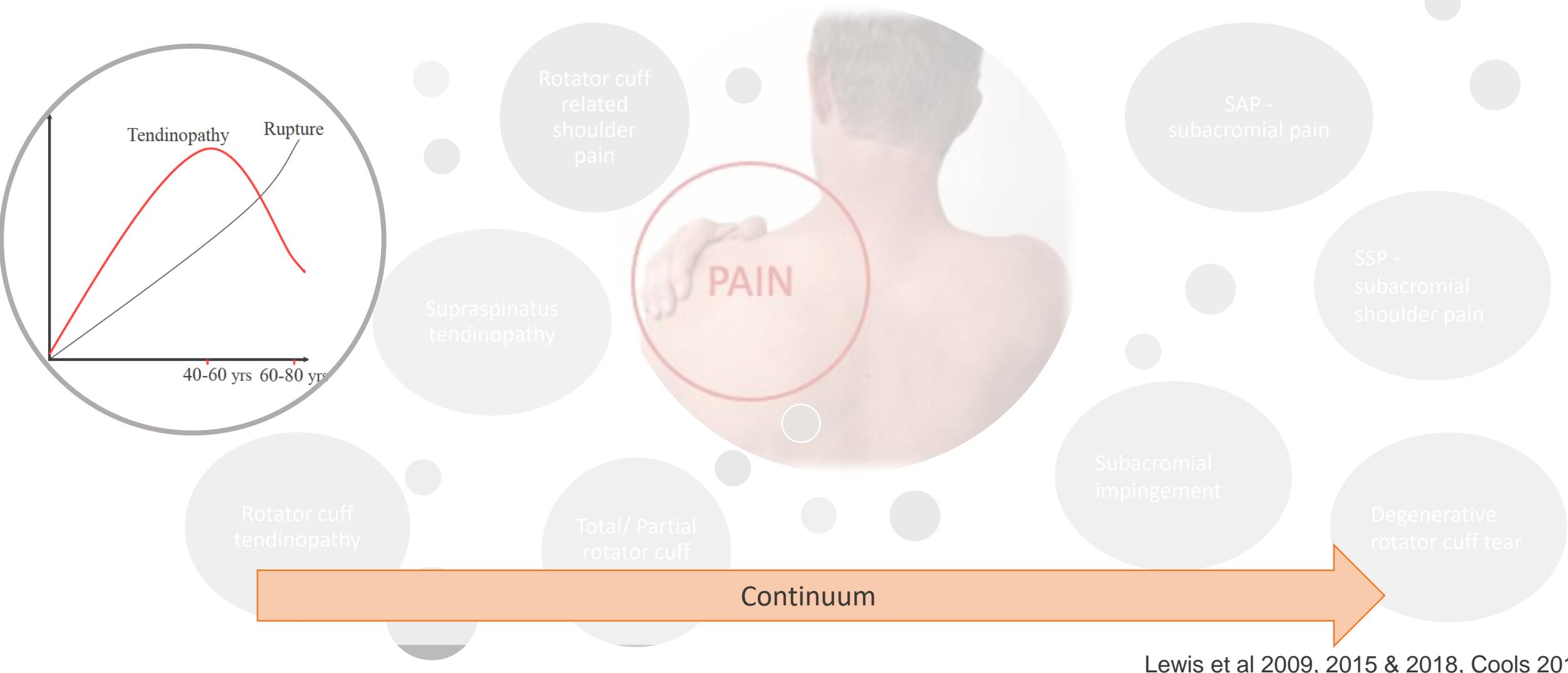


Rate of rotator cuff tear per 10-year age-group  
RCT=rotator cuff tear; NT=no tear.

# Rotator cuff related shoulder pain or subacromial shoulder pain ?



# Rotator cuff related shoulder pain or subacromial shoulder pain ?



# When the physiotherapist meets the patient with rotator cuff related shoulder pain

Clinical presentation:

Reduced shoulder function

Reduced ROM + strength

Pain (elevation + ext. rotation)

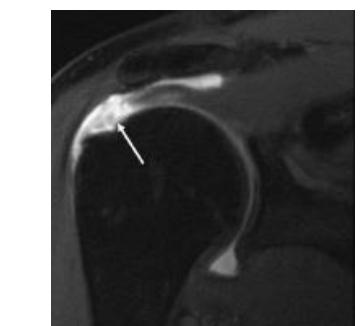
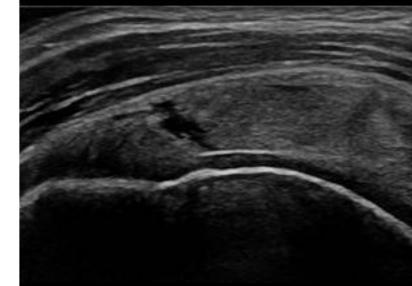
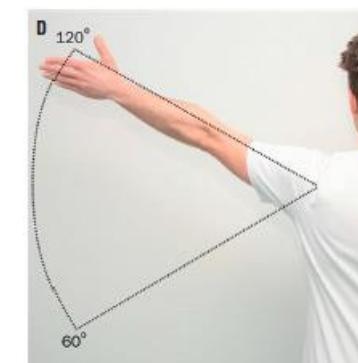
Reduced quality of life

Reduced work capacity

Hawkins et al., 1999, Fehringer et al., 2008,  
Lewis, 2009, van der Windt et al., 1995,  
Smith et al., 2000

Diagnosing:  
Anamnesis  
Clinical examination  
Incl. special tests

Paraclinical examination:  
(ultrasound and MRI)



# When the physiotherapist meet the patient with rotator cuff related shoulder pain

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect  
JSES Open Access  
journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/jses](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jses)

ELSEVIER

Associations between shoulder symptoms and concomitant pathology in patients with traumatic supraspinatus tears

Birgitte H. Kjær, PhD, PT <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Birgit Juul-Kristensen, PhD, PT <sup>b</sup>, Susan Warming, PhD, PT <sup>a</sup>, S. Peter Magnusson, PhD, PT <sup>a,c,d</sup>, Michael R. Krogsgaard, PhD, MD <sup>e</sup>, Eleanor Boyle, PhD <sup>b</sup>, Marius Henriksen, PhD, PT <sup>a,f</sup>

Arthritis Care & Research

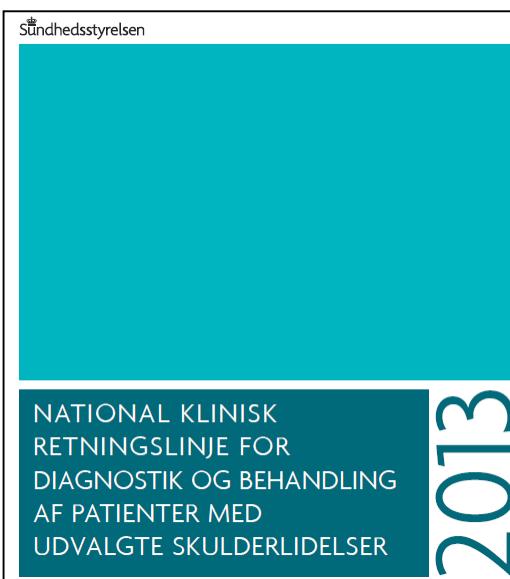
AMERICAN COLLEGE  
of RHEUMATOLOGY  
Empowering Rheumatology Professionals

What Imaging-D  
Associated With  
Persistence? A Systematic Literature Review

GUI TRAN,<sup>1</sup> PAUL COWLING,<sup>2</sup> TOBY SMITH,<sup>3</sup> JULIE BURY,<sup>4</sup> ADAM LUCAS,<sup>1</sup> ANDREW BARR,<sup>1</sup> SARAH R. KINGSBURY,<sup>1</sup> AND PHILIP G. CONAGHAN<sup>5</sup>



# Exercise therapy as treatment



## Danish National Clinical Guidelines RECOMMENDATIONS

Træningsterapi bør være førstevælg

Superviseret træning (patienten instrueres, superviseres og monitoreres af en fysioterapeut)

### Træningsforløb af mindst 3 måneders varighed

Stabiliserende øvelser

Styrketræning af den skapulære muskulatur

Styrketræning af rotatorcuff muskulaturen

Genlære/ relæring/ uddannelse i hensigtsmæssige bevægelser i arbejdssituationer og sport

Holdningskorrigende øvelser

Træningen bør progredieres med stigende intensitet.

Selvtræning efter instruktion i et individuelt tilrettelagt træningsprogram kan overvejes til nogle patienter (præferencer, erfaringer og mulighed for at gennemføre træningen)

# Physiotherapy rehabilitation – primary literature

Does adding heavy load eccentric training to rehabilitation of patients with unilateral subacromial impingement result in better outcome? A randomized, clinical trial

Annelies G. Maenhout · Nele N. Mahieu ·

Martine De Muynck  
Ann M. Cools



ELSEVIER

## Three Months of Progressive High-Load Versus Traditional Strength Training Among Patients With Rotator Cuff Tendinopathy

Primary Results From the Double-Blind Randomized Controlled RoCTEx Trial

Physiotherapy 98 (2012) 101–109

Systematic review

Exercise for rotator cuff tendinopathy: a systematic re

Chris Littlewood<sup>a,\*</sup>, Jon Ashton<sup>b</sup>, Ken Chance-Larsen<sup>c</sup>, Stephen May<sup>c</sup>, Be

LOUISE PIETERS, PT<sup>1</sup> • JEREMY LEWIS, PT, PhD<sup>2,4</sup> • KEVIN KUPPENS, PT<sup>1</sup> • JILL JO

TWAN BRUIJSTENS, PT<sup>1</sup> • LAURENCE JOOSSENS, PT<sup>1</sup> • FILIP STRUYF, PT, PhD<sup>2</sup>

An Update of Systematic Reviews Examining the Effectiveness of Conservative Physical Therapy Interventions for Subacromial Shoulder Pain



OPEN ACCESS

CLINICAL SCIENCE

Non-surgical and surgical treatments for rotator cuff disease: a pragmatic randomised clinical trial with 2-year follow-up after initial rehabilitation

Sanna Cederqvist <sup>1</sup>, Tapio Flinkkilä, <sup>2</sup> Markus Sormaalaa, <sup>3</sup> Jari Ylinen, <sup>4</sup> Hannu Kautiainen, <sup>5,6</sup> Tero Irmola, <sup>1</sup> Heidi Lehtokangas, <sup>1,7</sup> Juhu Liukkonen, <sup>8</sup>

Treatment

## Pain or No Pain?

**Therapeutic exercise for rotator cuff tendinopathy: a systematic review of contextual factors and prescription parameters**

Chris Littlewood<sup>a</sup>, Peter Malliaras<sup>b</sup> and Ken Chance-Larsen<sup>c</sup>

Littlewood 2015

Maenhout 2013, Ingwersen 2017, Littlewood 2012, Pieters 2020, Cederqvist 2020



# PAin during Shoulder Exercise

## #PASE-trial

Does pain matter in the effectiveness of an exercise program in patients with rotator cuff tendinopathy?

A randomized clinical trial comparing two exercise programs:  
allowing pain vs. avoiding pain

**MAIN DIFFERENCE**

### Population

Adults aged 18 to 55 years \*

Shoulder symptoms lasting for a minimum of 3 months

Clinical diagnosis of rotator cuff (supraspinatus and/or infraspinatus) tendinopathy

Diagnosis verified by ultrasound

### Recruiting from

Occupational Medicine Clinic of the Capital Region and  
Sports Medicine Clinic of the Capital Region,  
Copenhagen University Hospital Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg

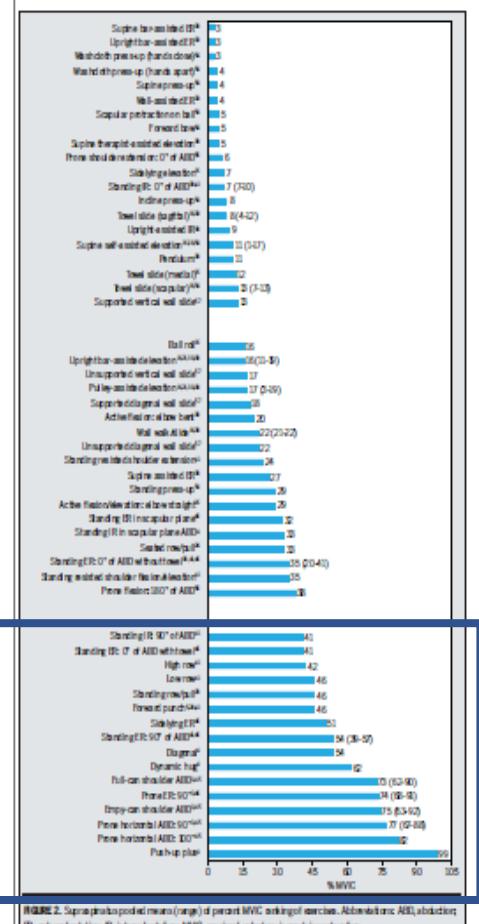
**#PASE**



## [ RESEARCH REPORT ]

PETER K. EDWARDS, MSc<sup>1</sup> • JAY R. EBERT, PhD<sup>1</sup> • CHRIS LITTLEWOOD, PhD<sup>2</sup>  
TIM ACKLAND, PhD<sup>1</sup> • ALLAN WANG, FRACS, PhD<sup>3,4</sup>

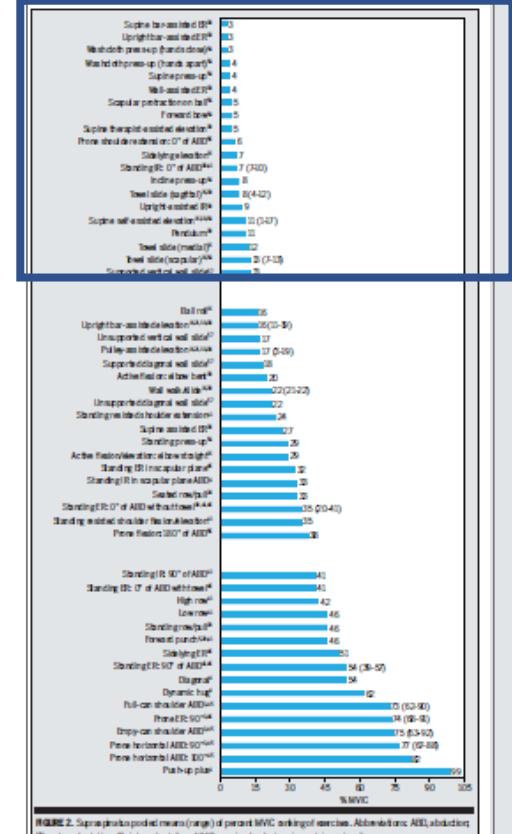
# A Systematic Review of Electromyography Studies in Normal Shoulders to Inform Postoperative Rehabilitation Following Rotator Cuff Repair



**FIGURE 2.** Supraspinatus pooled means (range) of percent MVIC ranking of exercises. Abbreviations: ABD, abduction; ER, external rotation; IR, internal rotation; MVIC, maximal voluntary isometric contraction.



Edwards 2017, Cools 2020, Boettcher 2009



## [ RESEARCH REPORT ]

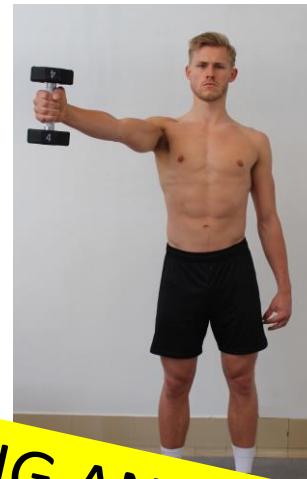
PETER K. EDWARDS, MSc<sup>1</sup> • JAY R. EBERT, PhD<sup>1</sup> • CHRIS LITTLEWOOD, PhD<sup>2</sup>  
TIM ACKLAND, PhD<sup>1</sup> • ALLAN WANG, FRACS, PhD<sup>1,4</sup>

# A Systematic Review of Electromyography Studies in Normal Shoulders to Inform Postoperative Rehabilitation Following Rotator Cuff Repair

Supine bar-assisted ER <sup>38</sup>	3
Upright bar-assisted ER <sup>30</sup>	3
Washcloth press-up (hands close) <sup>54</sup>	3
Washcloth press-up (hands apart) <sup>54</sup>	4
Wall-assisted ER <sup>38</sup>	4
Scapular protraction <sup>54</sup>	5
Forward bow <sup>54</sup>	5
Supine therapist-assisted elevation <sup>38</sup>	5
Prone shoulder extension: 0° of ABD <sup>56</sup>	6
Sidelying elevation <sup>16</sup>	7
Standing IR: 0° of ABD <sup>38,41</sup>	7 (7-10)
Incline press-up <sup>54</sup>	8
Towel slide (sagittal) <sup>16,50</sup>	8 (4-12)
Upright-assisted IR <sup>38</sup>	9
Supine self-assisted elevation <sup>16,38,54</sup>	11 (1-17)
Pendulum <sup>38</sup>	11
Towel slide (medial) <sup>16</sup>	12
Towel slide (scapular) <sup>16,54</sup>	13 (7-13)
Supported vertical wall slide <sup>57</sup>	13



# Exercises loading the tendon



No symptoms



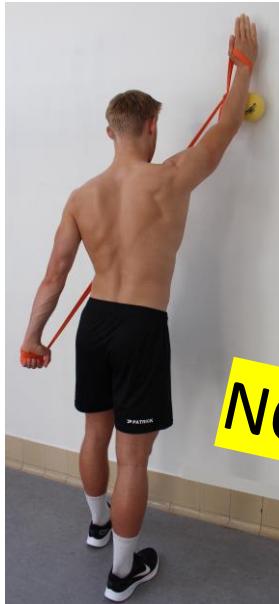
Safe

Acceptable

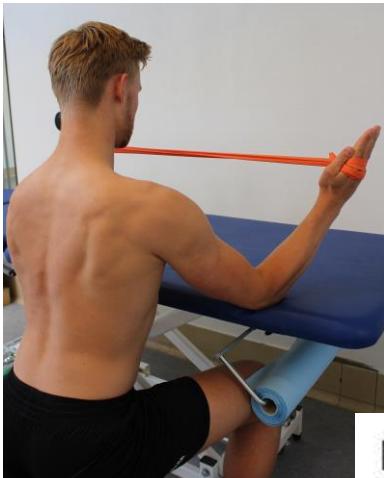
High risk

Worst imaginable symptoms

# Exercises not loading the tendon



EMG muscle activity  
of <20% MVC



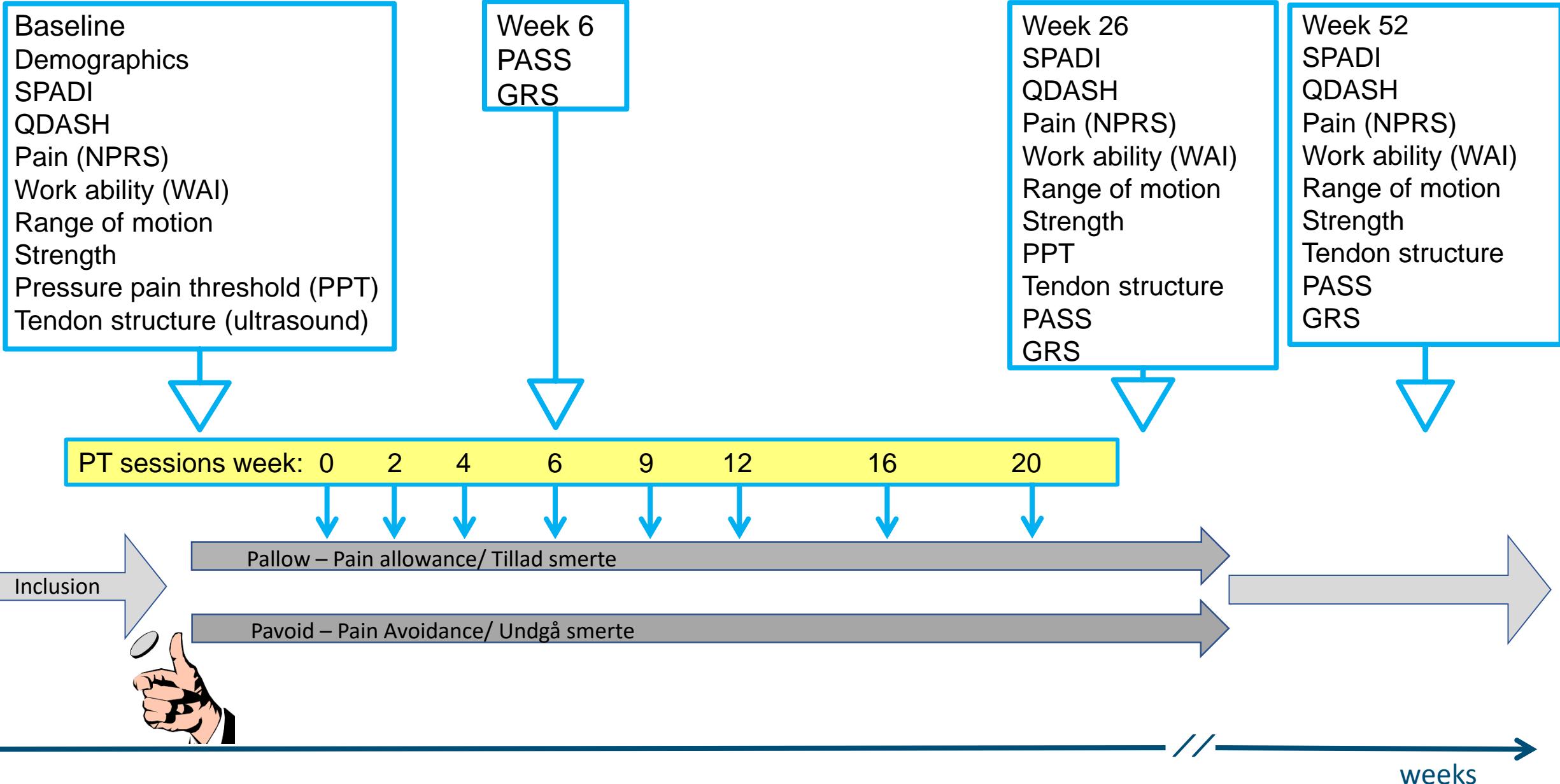
NOT ACCEPTING AN INCREASE IN PAIN DURING TRAINING

No symptoms

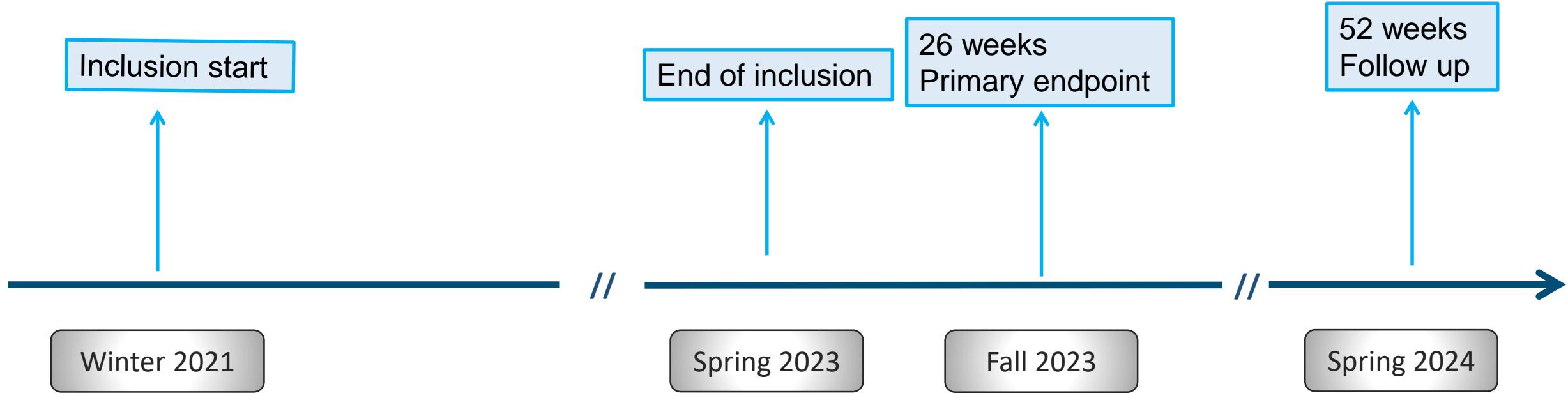


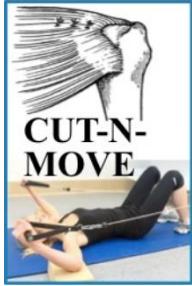
Worst imaginable  
symptoms

# Flow diagram and outcome measures

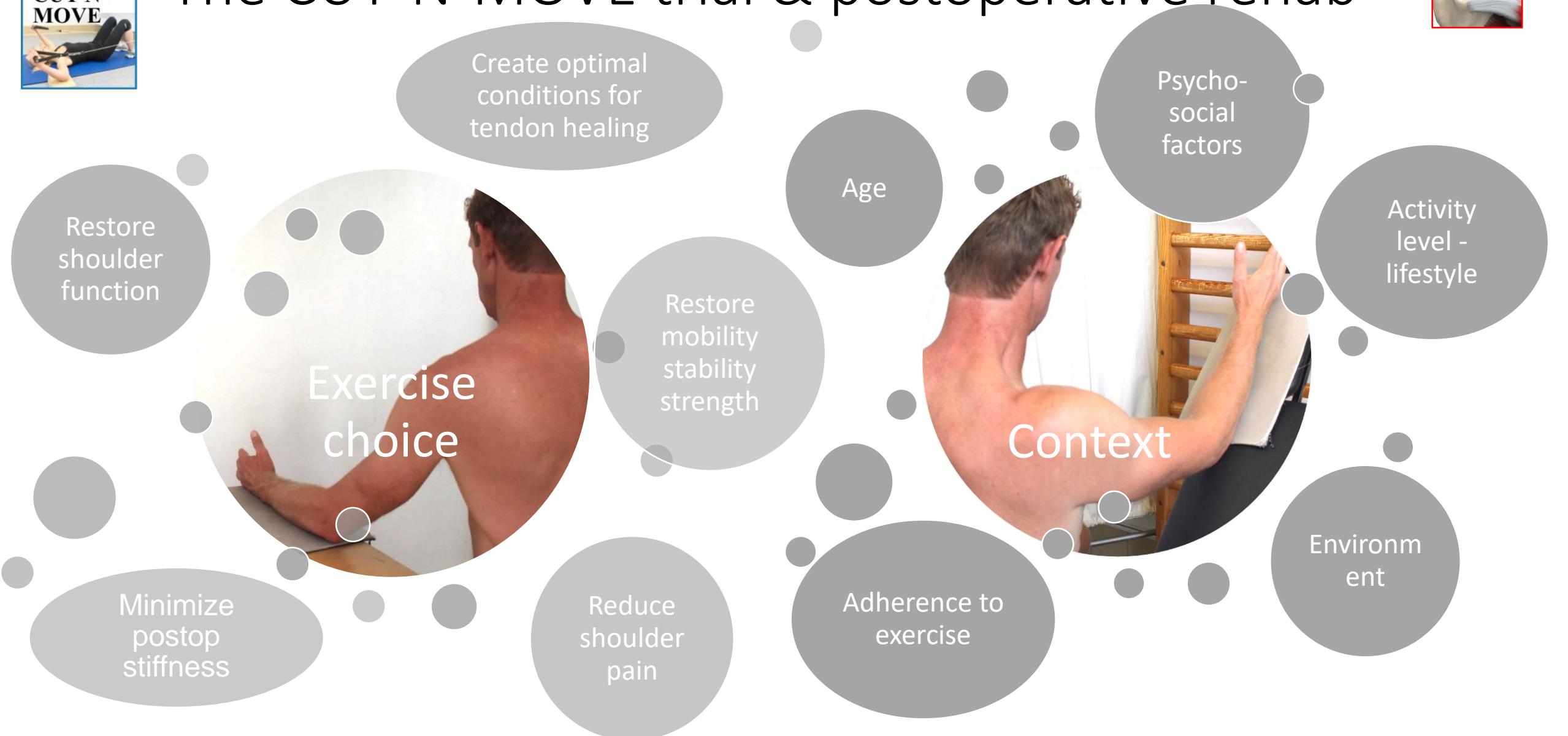


# Timeline



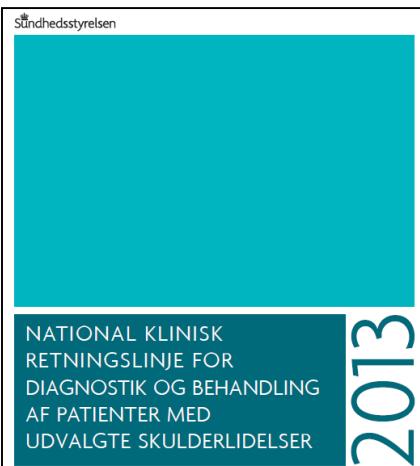


# The CUT-N-MOVE trial & postoperative rehab



# Postoperative rehabilitation

- Patients should have early supervised rehabilitation
- Shoulder should be immobilized prior to postoperative rehabilitation



# Postoperative rehab parameters

- Immobilized 3-5 weeks
- Adhere to the restrictions for the subscapularis and infraspinatus
- Active ROM < 90° elevation the first 5 weeks

Tirefort 2019, Sheps 2019, Shen 2014, Cuff 2012, Arndt 2012, Kim 2012



- Early passive (unloaded) exercises already during the immobilization period (resulting in significantly better shoulder ROM and function)
- No evidence of increased tendon healing, BUT
- DOES NOT compromise tendon healing
- NOT increased re-tear rate

Cuff 2012, Keener 2014, Kim 2012, Arndt 2012, Chan 2014, Shen 2014, Littlewood et al. 2015, Saltzman 2017, Mazuquin 2018, Hurley 2019



# Postoperative rehab parameters

When can we introduce loading & active exercises?

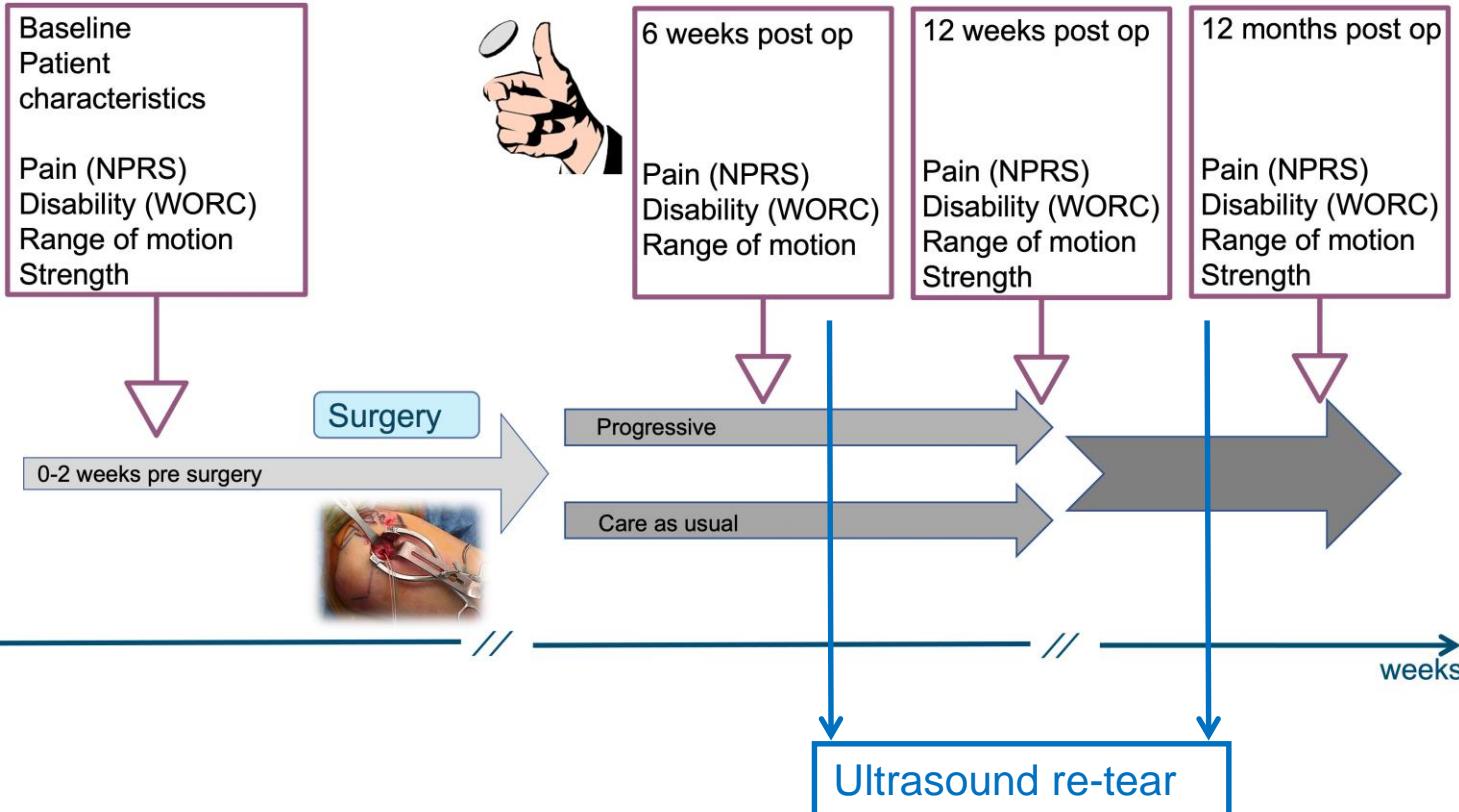




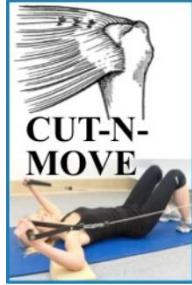
## STUDY PROTOCOL

Progressive early passive and active exercise therapy after surgical rotator cuff repair – study protocol for a randomized controlled trial (the CUT-N-MOVE trial)

Birgitte Hougs Kjær<sup>1,2\*</sup>, S. Peter Magnusson<sup>1,3</sup>, Susan Warming<sup>1</sup>, Marius Henriksen<sup>1,5</sup>, Michael Rindom Krogsgaard<sup>4</sup> and Birgit Juul-Kristensen<sup>2</sup>

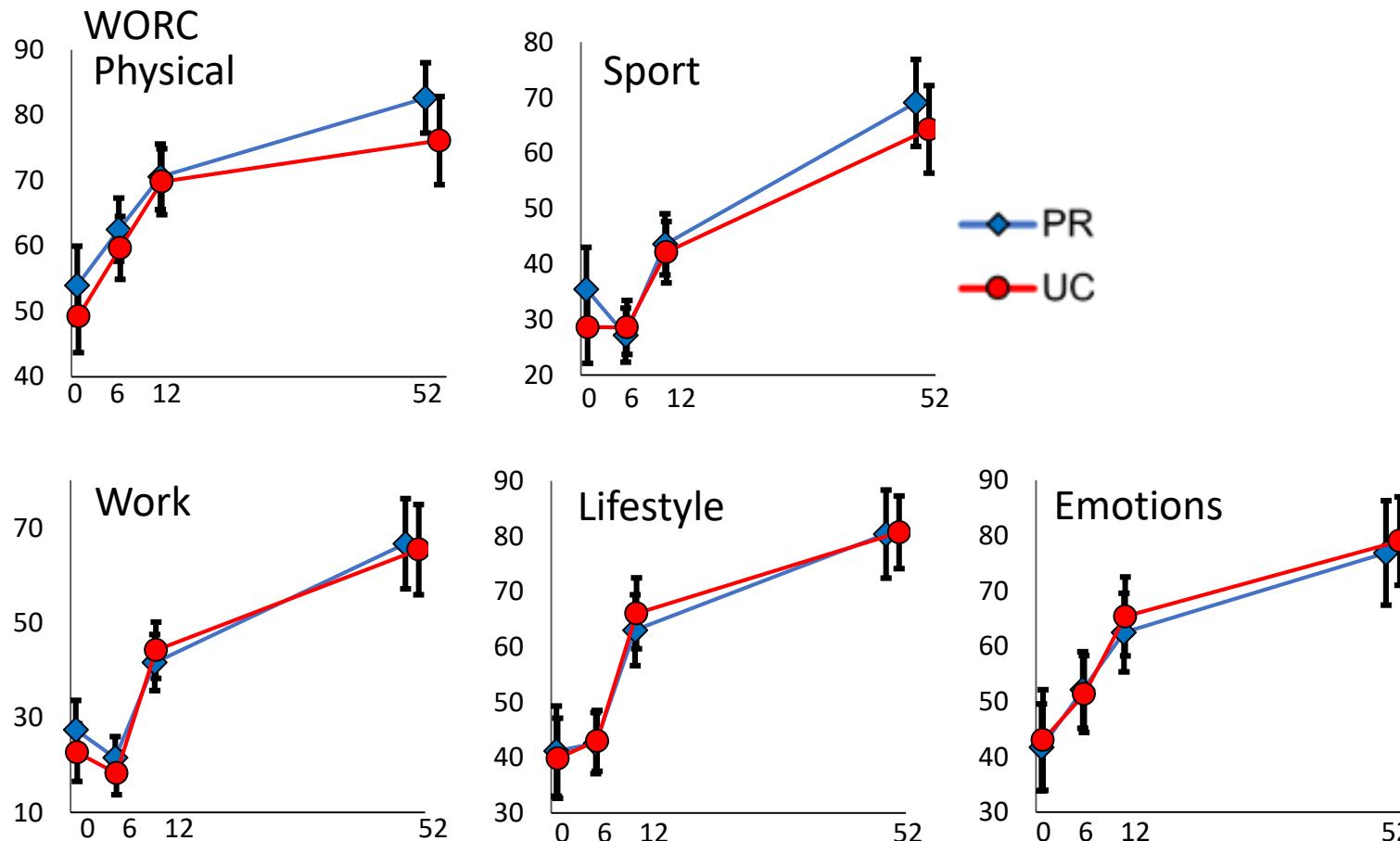


**Aim:** To evaluate whether there was superior effect of twelve-weeks of progressive active exercise therapy on shoulder function, pain, and quality of life, compared with usual care.



## Results

- no significant between group difference
- significant improvements over time



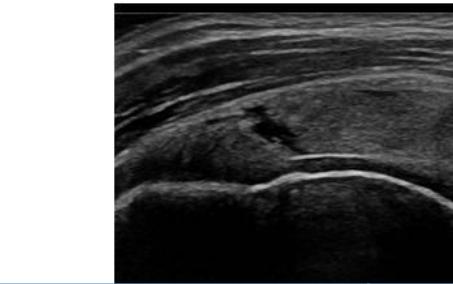
N= 82 (12 weeks) N= 79 (1 year)

## Effects of 12 Weeks of Progressive Early Active Exercise Therapy After Surgical Rotator Cuff Repair

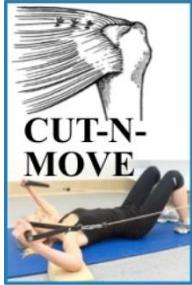
2021

### 12 Weeks and 1-Year Results From the CUT-N-MOVE Randomized Controlled Trial

Birgitte Hougs Kjær,<sup>\*†‡</sup> PT, PhD, S. Peter Magnusson,<sup>§||</sup> PT, DMSci, Marius Henriksen,<sup>\*†¶</sup> PT, PhD, Susan Warming,<sup>†</sup> PT, PhD, Eleanor Boyle,<sup>‡</sup> PhD, Michael Rindom Krosgaard,<sup>#</sup> MD, PhD, Ali Al-Hamdani,<sup>\*\*</sup> MD, and Birgit Juul-Kristensen,<sup>‡</sup> PT, PhD  
Investigation performed at Copenhagen University Hospital Bispebjerg Frederiksberg and Herlev Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark



Postoperative Ultrasound re-tear	6 weeks	1 year
Early active group	6	6
Usual care group	3	7



**12 Weeks and 1-Year Results From the CUT-N-MOVE  
Randomized Controlled Trial**

Birgitte Hougs Kjær,<sup>\*†‡</sup> PT, PhD, S. Peter Magnusson,<sup>§||</sup> PT, DMSci,  
Marius Henriksen,<sup>†¶</sup> PT, PhD, Susan Warming,<sup>†</sup> PT, PhD, Eleanor Boyle,<sup>‡</sup> PhD,  
Michael Rindom Krogsgaard,<sup>#</sup> MD, PhD, Ali Al-Hamdani,<sup>\*\*</sup> MD, and Birgit Juul-Kristensen,<sup>‡</sup> PT, PhD  
Investigation performed at Copenhagen University Hospital Bispebjerg Frederiksberg  
and Herlev Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark

## Conclusion and clinical implications CUT-N-MOVE trial

- No disadvantage to progress faster in the rehabilitation
- Future patients should be allowed more activity and thereby integrate the arm more in daily activities immediately postoperatively



# Effectiveness of early versus delayed rehabilitation following rotator cuff repair: Systematic review and meta-analyses

2021

Bruno Mazuquin<sup>1</sup>\*, Maria Moffatt<sup>1</sup>, Peter Gill<sup>1,2</sup>, James Selfe<sup>1</sup>, Jonathan Rees<sup>3</sup>, Steve Drew<sup>4</sup>, Chris Littlewood<sup>1</sup>

**1** Department of Health Professions, Faculty of Health, Psychology and Social Care, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester, United Kingdom, **2** Northern Care Alliance NHS Group, Manchester, United Kingdom, **3** Nuffield Department of Orthopaedics, Rheumatology and Musculoskeletal Science, University of Oxford and NIHR Oxford Biomedical Research Centre, Oxford, United Kingdom, **4** University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire, Coventry, United Kingdom

## Effects of 12 Weeks of Progressive Early Active Exercise Therapy After Surgical Rotator Cuff Repair

2021

### 12 Weeks and 1-Year Results From the CUT-N-MOVE Randomized Controlled Trial

Birgitte Hougs Kjær,<sup>\*†‡</sup> PT, PhD, S. Peter Magnusson,<sup>§||</sup> PT, DMSci, Marius Henriksen,<sup>†¶</sup> PT, PhD, Susan Warming,<sup>†</sup> PT, PhD, Eleanor Boyle,<sup>‡</sup> PhD, Michael Rindom Krosgaard,<sup>#</sup> MD, PhD, Ali Al-Hamdan,<sup>\*\*</sup> MD, and Birgit Juul-Kristensen,<sup>‡</sup> PT, PhD  
Investigation performed at Copenhagen University Hospital Bispebjerg Frederiksberg and Herlev Gentofte, Copenhagen, Denmark

Supervised physiotherapy rehabilitation

Individualize and stratify by tendon quality, age, comorbidity

Introduce early movement and progressive loading by integrating arm in ADL

Adhere to the interdisciplinary agreements

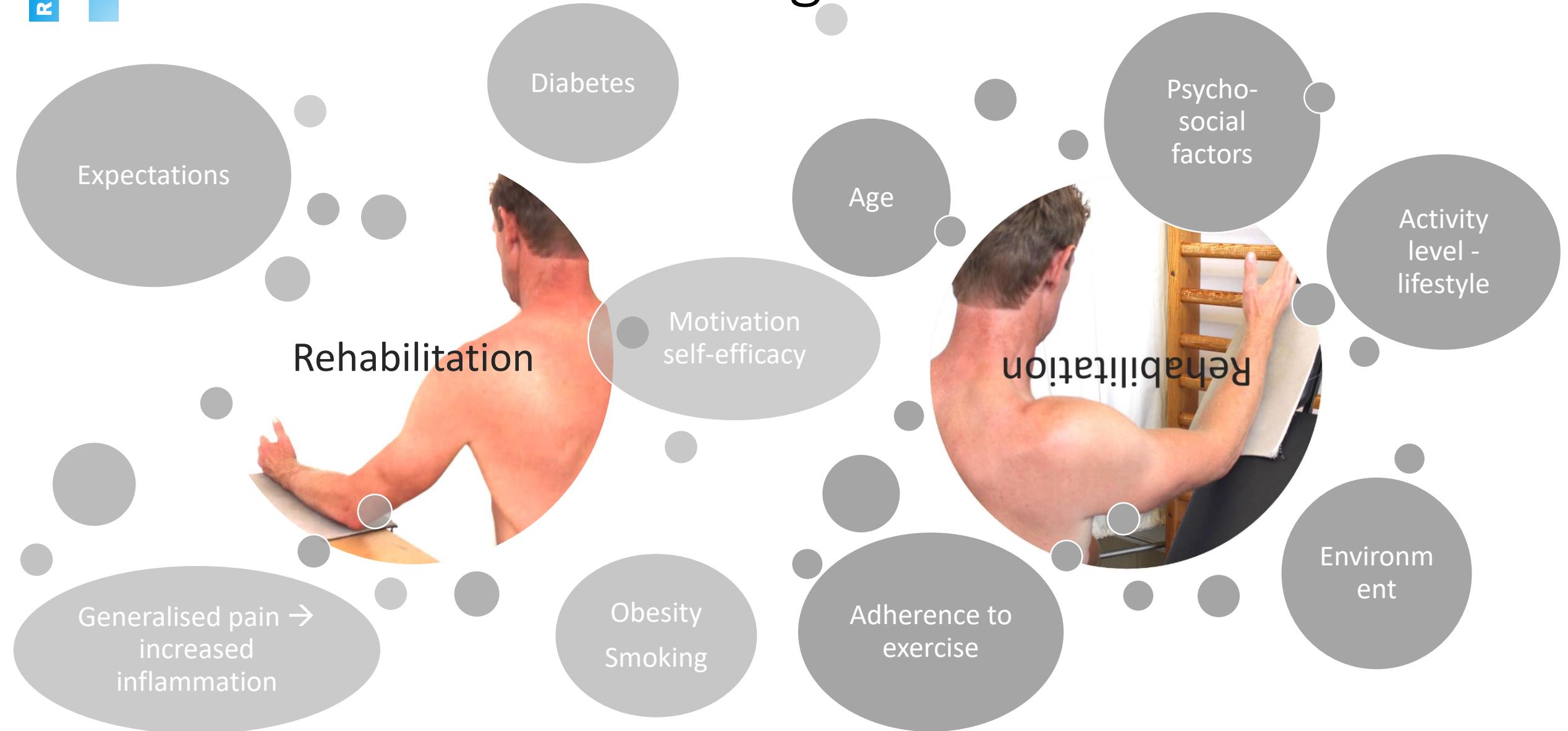
Follow evidence-based clinical guidelines



Clinical Guidelines: Vandvik et al. 2019, Jung et al. 2018, Thigpen et al. 2016, van der Meijden et al. 2012

Düzung et al. 2011, Kluczynski et al. 2016, Mazzocca et al. 2017, Kjær et al. 2021, Mazuquin et al 2021

# Risk factors & Prognostic factors





# Thanks to collaborators and foundations



**Region  
Hovedstaden**

**Gigt foreningen**  
for alle med ondt i led, ryg og muskler

**GANGSTEDFONDEN**

**RLTN**

**SDU** 

**JASCHA FONDEN**



Chief physician Finn Johannsen, BFH  
Professor Peter Magnusson, BFH  
Professor Ann Cools, BFH & UGent  
Assoc. prof. Birgit Juul-Kristensen, SDU  
Senior researcher Susan Warming, BFH  
Professor Marius Henriksen, BFH  
Biostat. Eleanor Boyle, SDU  
Professor Michael Krogsgaard, BFH



**Bispebjerg og Frederiksberg  
Hospital**



Thank you