

Bibliographic Data	
Authors	Licciardone JC, Minotti DE, Gatchel RJ, et al.
Title	Osteopathic manual treatment and ultrasound therapy for chronic low back pain: a randomized controlled trial.
PMID	23508598.
Citation	Ann Fam Med. 2013;11(2):122-9.
Other information if relevant	

Methods	
Aim of study	To assess the efficacy of osteopathic manual treatment and therapeutic ultrasound for chronic low back pain
Design	Randomized clinical trial

Reasons not to cite as evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The major liability involves an unplanned interim analysis which led to the study's early termination for benefit - The authors cite Pocock 2006 as the authority for stopping the trial, due to the fact that the p value of 0.003 had crossed the O'Brien-Fleming stopping boundary of $p=0.005$ - However, it is clear from the Pocock article that the stopping boundaries apply to planned, not to unplanned analyses - The stopping early for benefit therefore creates a risk of bias for the study conclusions, which should not be cited as evidence for the guideline - In addition, the study excluded workers' compensation participants from enrolling, making the study population different from that which would be most relevant to a workers' compensation guideline

Additional references or comments if relevant
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pocock SJ. Current controversies in data monitoring for clinical trials. Clin Trials 2006;3:513-521.