

TITLE:

Outcomes of Interventional Pain Management Options

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RESEARCH PROJECT DESCRIPTION (brief overview of background, hypothesis, methods, role of medical student, funding and relevant publications -- SHOULD NOT EXCEED ~ 250 WORDS)

Chronic pain conditions are a major health concern and are expected to grow significantly with the aging population. Better understanding and treatment options are needed to improve the quality of life and independence of affected patients. Although advancements have been made in basic pain research, these findings do not correlate with better outcomes in patient care. The continued assessment of pain interventions is therefore necessary, including subjective, e.g. pain scores, as well as objective outcome measurements, e.g. the Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB: Evaluation of balance, gait and chair-stand capability) or the Timed Up and Go test (TUG). This study will determine the feasibility of the SPPB in a busy Pain Clinic and will determine the effect of interventional pain procedures on objective and functional (SPPB) and subjective outcomes. In addition, patient chart reviews will be performed.

Student Role:

The student will learn and implement the Short Physical Performance Battery (SPPB) and the Timed Up and Go test (TUG) as outcome measure in the UF Health Pain Clinic. The student will learn additionally common pain conditions and available treatment options and will conduct a retrospective data analysis of objective and subjective outcomes after common interventional pain procedures under consideration of the patient's demographic and past medical history.