OBJECTIVE MEASUREMENTS IN PATIENTS WITH CHRONIC LOW BACK & LEG PAIN

LISA GOUDMAN

Wednesday, September 25th 2019 at 17:00

Room Auditorium Piet Brouwer, campus Jette

Please confirm your presence before September 23rd to lisa.goudman@vub.be

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ABSTRACT OF THE RESEARCH

Failed Back Surgery Syndrome (FBSS) is a condition in which patients are suffering from persistent or recurring low back pain, despite previously performed surgical procedures. In this thesis we demonstrated that self-reporting questionnaires are not always in agreement with objective measurements. Nevertheless, healthcare providers are most of the time forced to rely on the self-reporting of patients. This emphasizes the need for both patient-reported and objective parameters in daily healthcare. Therefore, this thesis intended to reveal objective measurement tools that are capable of measuring pre- to post treatment changes in patients with FBSS.

Three objective tools were used in thesis to measure pre- to post treatment changes in patients with FBSS namely nociceptive processing, EEG and HRV. All three were suitable to measure pre- to post changes of SCS, and are more objective than a self-reporting questionnaire or subjective reporting.

In the future, more real-life studies in heterogeneous groups of patients with low back and leg pain should be performed. A combination of self-reported and not self-reported measurement tools should be used to describe patients before any treatment and to determine treatment success afterwards.

CURRICULUM VITAE

Lisa Goudman was born on May 30th 1991 in Ghent, Belgium. She followed her secondary education at Sint Bavo Humanoria and graduated in 2009. The same year she started studying physiotherapy at Ghent University. In 2014 she graduated as a physiotherapist. The year after her graduation, she combined working as a physiotherapist with a postgraduate in Manual Therapy, which she successfully obtained in 2015. From 2015 to 2019, she could work on her PhD under the supervision of prof. Moens, prof. Nijs, prof Ickmans and prof. Buyt at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel, with funding from a project grant of the Agency for Innovation by Science and Technology (IWT) – Applied Biomedical Research Program (TBM), Belgium.