Inhabitants of southern Stockholm County: n = 466,000

Subjects of working age (source population): n = 288,000

Severe spinal pain (point prevalence): n = 45,000

Full-time sick-listed for NSP: n = 2,300

Eligible patients with non-acute NSP: n ≈ 500

Recruited by the family doctors (during 3.5 years): n = 147

Excluded: n = 22 (not meeting inclusion criteria = 13; refused to participate = 9)

Randomized: n = 125

Cognitive-behavioural rehabilitation: n = 63

Traditional primary care: n = 62

Excluded: n = 1 (incomplete questionnaire)

Analyzed at baseline + 6 months: n = 124

Deceased at 11 month: n = 1

Analyzed at baseline + 12 months: n = 123

Deceased at 12 month: n = 1

Analyzed at baseline + 18 + 24 months: n = 122