Eligible patients sick listed for non-specific LBP (n=531)

Excluded (n=133)
- Returned to work within the 12th week of sick leave (n=13)
- Impossible to meet at the spine clinic within 12th week of sick leave (n=79)
- Pregnancy (n=2)
- Age > 60 y (n=2)
- Recent low back trauma (n=2)
- Ongoing treatment by another specialist (n=11)
- Low back pain is not the main complaint (n=24)

First visit at the spine clinic (n=398)

Excluded (n=103)
- Did not meet (n=12)
- Did not understand Norwegian (n=1)
- Returned to work (n=17)
- Expecting return to work within 1-2 weeks (n=32)
- LBP is no more main complaint (n=16)
- Referred to a vocational rehabilitation clinic (n=2)
- Refused to participate in the study (n=19)
- Waiting list for back surgery (n=3)
- Rheumatic disease (n=1)

Second visit at the spine clinic two weeks later (n=295)

Excluded (n=49)
- Returned to work (n=2)
- Refused to participate in the study (n=22)
- Expecting return to work within 1-2 weeks (n=22)
- Waiting list for back surgery (n=1)
- LBP is no more main complaint (n=2)

246 patients were randomized

3 months after inclusion
Sick leave data: n=244

1 year after sick leave
Sick leave data: n=239

2 years after sick leave
Sick leave data: n=243