

1. What is PEDro?

The Physiotherapy Evidence Database or 'PEDro' is a free, web-based database of evidence relevant to physiotherapy. It is available at www.pedro.org.au. PEDro contains citations of over 36,000 randomised controlled trials, systematic reviews and evidence-based clinical practice guidelines relevant to physiotherapy. Where possible, abstracts and links to full-text versions of the documents are also provided.

The randomised controlled trials on PEDro are rated for quality to help you quickly discriminate between trials which are likely to be valid and interpretable and those which are not. These ratings help you to judge the quality and usefulness of trials to inform clinical decision making.

2. How is PEDro maintained?

PEDro is maintained by the Centre for Evidence-Based Physiotherapy. The Centre was established by a small group of physiotherapists. It is based at the Musculoskeletal Division, The George Institute for Global Health (University of Sydney). The Centre's mission is to maximise the effectiveness of physiotherapy services by facilitating the clinical application of the best available evidence. The Centre functions as a non-profit organisation to facilitate physiotherapy research and implementation of effective physiotherapy.

Staff at the Centre perform regular and systematic searches of electronic databases of health literature for relevant trials, reviews and guidelines. Initially this was supplemented by trials identified by hand searches of approximately 200 allied health journals received from the Cochrane Rehabilitation & Related Therapies Field. The ongoing maintenance of PEDro is supplemented by volunteers who help locate, copy and rate trials, reviews and guidelines.

3. What can I do to help?

We are always looking for volunteers to help us locate and rate trials, reviews and guidelines. If you think you might like to assist in this way, please email us at PEDro@georgeinstitute.org.au. You can be a volunteer from anywhere in the world. If you know of a trial, review or guideline which you think ought to be on PEDro but is not, please email us with the details. The more details you can provide, the more likely it is that we will be able to find it. If you are the author of a paper that you think ought to be on PEDro but is not, please mail us a reprint.

4. How can I contact PEDro?

Anne Moseley (PEDro Project Manager)
Centre for Evidence-Based Physiotherapy
Musculoskeletal Division, The George Institute for Global Health
PO Box M201, Missenden Road, SYDNEY NSW 2050, Australia
Fax: +61 2 9657 0301
PEDro@georgeinstitute.org.au