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Supervised pelvic floor muscle training versus attention-control massage treatment in patients with faecal incontinence: Statistical analysis plan for a randomised controlled trial

Anja Ussing, Inge Dahn, Ulla Due, Michael Sørensen, Janne Petersen, Thomas Bandholm

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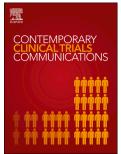
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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

### Title page

Supervised pelvic floor muscle training versus attention-control massage treatment in patients with faecal incontinence: statistical analysis plan for a randomised controlled trial

#### **Author information:**

Anja Ussing <sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Inge Dahn <sup>c</sup>, Ulla Due <sup>d</sup>, Michael Sørensen <sup>c</sup>, Janne Petersen <sup>b</sup>, Thomas Bandholm <sub>a,b,e</sub>

#### **Abstract**

**Introduction:** Faecal incontinence affects approximately 8-9% of the adult population. The condition is surrounded by taboo; it can have a devastating impact on quality of life and lead to major limitations in daily life. Pelvic floor muscle training in combination with information and fibre supplements is recommended as first-line treatment for faecal incontinence. Despite this, the effect of pelvic floor muscle training for faecal incontinence is unclear. No previous trials have investigated the efficacy of supervised pelvic floor muscle training in combination with conservative treatment and compared this to an attention-control massage treatment including conservative treatment. The aim of this trial is to investigate if 16 weeks of supervised pelvic floor muscle training in combination with conservative treatment is superior to attention-control massage treatment and conservative treatment in patients with faecal incontinence.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Department of Physiotherapy- and Occupational Therapy, Copenhagen University Hospital Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark, Kettegaards Allé 30, DK-2650 Hvidovre

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Optimed, Clinical Research Center, Copenhagen University Hospital Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark, Kettegaards Allé 30, DK-2650 Hvidovre

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>c</sup> Department of Surgical and Medical Gastroenterology, Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark, Kettegaards Allé 30, DK-2650 Hvidovre

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>d</sup> Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Herlev Hospital, Herlev Ringvej 75, DK-2730 Herlev, Department of Occupational and Physical Therapy, Herlev Hospital, Herlev Ringvej 75, DK-2730 Herlev, Denmark

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>e</sup> Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Researsh – Copeghagen (PMR-C), Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark, Kettegaards Allé 30, DK-2650 Hvidovre,

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author: Department of Physiotherapy- and Occupational Therapy, Optimed, Clinical Research Center, Copenhagen University Hospital Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre, Denmark, Kettegaards Allé 30, DK-2650, anja.ussing@regionh.dk

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