

Supplementary File 2. Covariates, baseline data and definitions

Covariates	Definitions
KIDSCREEN 27 questionnaire	Quality of life measured from 27 questions covering the following five domains. Values vary from 10-70 with population norm mean=50, high value equals better QOL
KID Physical	Physical wellbeing domain
KID Psych	Psychological wellbeing domain
KID Autonomy	Autonomy and parent relation domain
KID Social	Social support and peers domain
KID School	School domain
Expectations of the clinical course (EoCC)	The child was asked before the treatment: "What do you expect the outcome of your spinal pain will be compared with how it is now?" Rated on a 5-point scale ('1' being 'much worse' and '5' being 'much better')
Baseline data	
Age	9-15 years
Sex	Boy/girl
Intervention group	Manipulative group/non-manipulative group
School	13 schools included (used as cluster)
Class	4 th to 9 th grade (used as cluster)