Methods

Analysis of the graphic report of results of randomized clinical trials in manual therapy: a methodological review.

Núñez-Cortés R, Pérez-Bracchiglione J, Álvarez G, Urrutía G

Objectives
To assess the quantity and quality of graphs in RCTs of MT.

Methods
✓ Search strategy: PubMed and CENTRAL.
✓ Eligibility criteria: RCT design, MT intervention, English language.
✓ Published between the year 2000 and 2015.
✓ We took a random sample of 100 trials.
✓ We identified figures and graphs presenting data related to the primary outcome.

Conclusions
Despite graphs being able efficiently to convey study findings, less than half of the RCTs in MT use them. In addition, there is a important deficit in the quality of graphic reports. Improvements in graphic reporting are necessary to generate advances in physiotherapy practice.