

Outcomes/confounders	Patient level		Practitioner level		Practice level	
	Level of confounder					
Inference intended at the patient level						
LBP specific disability ⁹	✓*					
Pain severity ⁹	✓	✓				
X-ray occurred ⁹	✓		✓			
Fear-avoidance beliefs ⁹	✓					
Inference intended at the practitioner level						
X-ray referral ¹	✓					
Imaging referral ^{1, 6}	✓	✓				
Advice to stay active ¹	✓	✓				
Advised bed rest ¹	✓					
X-ray referral (file audit) ³	✓	✓				
Imaging referral (file audit) ^{3, 6}	✓					
Intention: x-ray referral ⁴						
Intention: imaging referral ^{4, 6}						
Intention: advice to stay active ⁴						
Intention: bed rest advice ⁴						
Behavioural constructs: x-ray ^{4, 10}						
Behavioural constructs: advice ^{4, 11}						