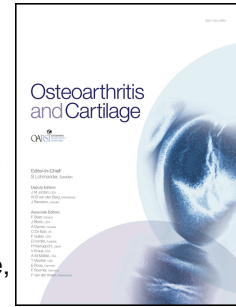


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Clinical diagnosis of symptomatic midfoot osteoarthritis: cross-sectional findings from the Clinical Assessment Study of the Foot

Martin J. Thomas, Edward Roddy, Trishna Rathod, Michelle Marshall, Andrew Moore, Hylton B. Menz, George Peat



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1 **Clinical diagnosis of symptomatic midfoot osteoarthritis: cross-sectional**
2 **findings from the Clinical Assessment Study of the Foot**

3

4 Martin J. Thomas, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
5 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK. Email:
6 m.thomas@keele.ac.uk

7 Edward Roddy, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
8 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK. Email: e.rodny@keele.ac.uk

9 Trishna Rathod, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
10 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK. Email: t.rathod@keele.ac.uk

11 Michelle Marshall, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
12 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK. Email:
13 m.marshall@keele.ac.uk

14 Andrew Moore, Musculoskeletal Research Unit, School of Clinical Sciences,
15 University of Bristol, UK. Email: a.j.moore@bristol.ac.uk

16 Hylton B. Menz, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
17 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK & Lower Extremity and Gait
18 Studies program, Faculty of Health Sciences, La Trobe University, Australia

19 George Peat, Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre, Research Institute for
20 Primary Care & Health Sciences, Keele University, UK. Email:
21 g.m.peat@keele.ac.uk

22

23

24 **Corresponding Author:**

25 Martin J. Thomas
26 Arthritis Research UK Primary Care Centre
27 Research Institute for Primary Care & Health Sciences,
28 Primary Care Sciences
29 Keele University
30 Staffordshire
31 ST5 5BG
32 United Kingdom
33 Tel: +44 (0) 1782 734874
34 Fax: +44 (0) 1782 734719
35 email: m.thomas@keele.ac.uk

36

37 **RUNNING TITLE:** Clinical diagnosis of midfoot OA

38 **ABSTRACT**

39

40 **Objective:** To derive a multivariable diagnostic model for symptomatic midfoot
41 osteoarthritis (OA).

42 **Methods:** Information on potential risk factors and clinical manifestations of
43 symptomatic midfoot OA was collected using a health survey and standardised
44 clinical examination of a population-based sample of 274 adults aged ≥ 50 years with
45 midfoot pain. Following univariable analysis, random intercept multi-level logistic
46 regression modelling that accounted for clustered data was used to identify the
47 presence of midfoot OA independently scored on plain radiographs (dorso-plantar
48 and lateral views), and defined as a score of ≥ 2 for osteophytes or joint space
49 narrowing in at least one of four joints (1st and 2nd cuneometatarsal, navicular-first
50 cuneiform and talonavicular joints). Model performance was summarised using the
51 calibration slope and area under the curve (AUC). Internal validation and sensitivity
52 analyses explored model over-fitting and certain assumptions.

53 **Results:** Compared to persons with midfoot pain only, symptomatic midfoot OA was
54 associated with measures of static foot posture and range-of-motion at subtalar and
55 ankle joints. Arch Index was the only retained clinical variable in a model containing
56 age, gender and body mass index (BMI). The final model was poorly calibrated
57 (calibration slope, 0.64, 95%CI: 0.39, 0.89) and discrimination was fair-to-poor (AUC,
58 0.64, 0.58, 0.70). Final model sensitivity and specificity were 29.9% (22.7, 38.0) and
59 87.5% (82.9, 91.3), respectively. Bootstrapping revealed the model to be over-
60 optimistic and performance was not improved using continuous predictors.

61 **Conclusions:** Brief clinical assessments provided only marginal information for
62 identifying the presence of radiographic midfoot OA among community-dwelling
63 persons with midfoot pain.

64

65 **KEYWORDS**

66

67 Midfoot Pain Osteoarthritis Diagnosis Primary care

68

69

1 INTRODUCTION

2

3 Foot pain is a common symptom in the general population, affecting an estimated
4 24% of community-dwelling older adults¹, and is frequently encountered in primary
5 care²⁻⁴. Osteoarthritis (OA) is likely to be one underlying cause of foot pain. Among
6 adults aged 50 years and over, 17% have been estimated to have symptomatic
7 radiographic foot OA⁵, however, the basis for clinically diagnosing foot OA in
8 symptomatic individuals is far from clear.

9

10 At the knee, where more research has been undertaken, the European
11 League Against Rheumatism (EULAR) guidelines recommend the clinical diagnosis
12 of knee OA, and highlighted the particular risk factors, clinical history and physical
13 examination findings likely to be most informative⁶. However the ability to
14 discriminate subtypes, for example patellofemoral OA, may be limited⁷.

15

16 At the foot, diagnostic research is currently restricted to the 1st
17 metatarsophalangeal joint (MTPJ)⁸. We have recently shown that midfoot OA may
18 constitute a distinct subtype of foot OA⁹ and that symptomatic midfoot OA affects
19 approximately 12% of adults aged 50 years and over, with most people reporting
20 foot-related disability and recently utilising primary health care for foot pain¹⁰.
21 Although often present in primary care, the ability to provide targeted treatment for
22 the functional consequences of midfoot OA may be limited by the challenges of
23 clinical diagnosis¹¹.

24

25 Our aim was therefore to derive a clinically practicable multivariable
26 diagnostic model for symptomatic midfoot OA among community-dwelling persons
27 with midfoot pain.

28

29 **METHODS**

30

31 **Study population**

32

33 Data were collected via a population-based health survey and research
34 assessment clinic as part of the Clinical Assessment Study of the Foot (CASF)^{5,12}.
35 The health survey gathered information on general health, foot-specific features,
36 demographic and socio-economic characteristics. The research assessment clinic
37 collected physical examination data using brief clinical assessments and plain
38 radiography. Inclusion criteria for the present analysis were: adults aged ≥ 50
39 years who were registered with one of four general practices in North
40 Staffordshire, United Kingdom, and who responded to a health survey, provided
41 consent to further contact, consent to participate in a research assessment clinic
42 and had midfoot pain in the last month. Based on self-reported shading on either
43 dorsal or plantar views of a foot manikin in the health survey, midfoot pain was
44 ascertained using a pre-defined regional marking template (© The University of
45 Manchester 2000. All rights reserved)^{13,14}.

46

47 Individuals with non-specific inflammatory arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis or
48 psoriatic arthritis, as indicated by primary care and local hospital medical record
49 review, or on an x-ray report by a consultant musculoskeletal radiologist, were

50 excluded from the analyses. Ethical approval was obtained from Coventry
51 Research Ethics Committee (REC reference number: 10/H1210/5).

52

53 **Data collection**

54

55 Research assessment clinic attenders underwent standardised clinical interview and
56 physical examination performed by one of seven trained research therapists (four
57 physiotherapists, three podiatrists). Assessors had between 1-35 years of post-
58 qualification experience, reflecting the broad range of expertise found in clinical
59 practice, and were required to satisfy pre-study training requirements and undergo
60 quality control sessions during the study¹².

61

62 During the same research assessment clinic, plain radiographs were taken of both
63 feet from weight-bearing dorso-plantar and lateral projections. All clinical assessors
64 were blind to participants' radiographic images and outcomes. The presence of
65 midfoot OA was defined as a score of two or more for osteophytes or joint space
66 narrowing at the 1st or 2nd cuneometatarsal, navicular-first cuneiform or talonavicular
67 joints on either dorso-plantar or lateral views. The included joints represent the
68 medial midfoot region and were selected as the joints of the lateral midfoot were not
69 included in the radiographic foot atlas as they could not be as reliably evaluated¹⁵.
70 Radiographs were scored using a published atlas and scoring system¹⁵ by a single
71 experienced reader (MM) who was blind to all clinical assessment outcomes. The
72 radiographs of 60 participants were selected at random and were rescored eight
73 weeks later by MM and independently scored by HBM. Intra-rater reliability for the
74 presence of midfoot OA in each foot was found to be excellent (mean unweighted

75 $\kappa=0.90$; 95% confidence interval (CI): 0.74, 0.99, mean percentage agreement=95%)
76 and inter-rater reliability was fair (mean unweighted $\kappa=0.32$; 95% CI: 0.19, 0.45,
77 mean percentage agreement=63%).

78

79 **Reference standard for symptomatic midfoot OA**

80

81 Symptomatic midfoot OA was confirmed using the atlas by Menz et al¹⁵ and defined
82 as the co-occurrence in the same foot of midfoot pain (ascertained from self-reported
83 shading on a foot manikin as defined above) and the presence of radiographic OA
84 (as defined above).

85

86 **Selected predictor variables**

87

88 A total of 16 predictor variables were selected from both health survey and research
89 assessment clinic data. These were selected based on three criteria: (i) known risk
90 factors for symptomatic OA at other joint sites, or (ii) have a mechanically-driven
91 putative link to symptomatic midfoot OA, and (iii) be clinically practicable in primary
92 care consultations. In meeting these criteria, three variables were identified and
93 selected as recognised independent risk factors for OA (age, gender and body mass
94 index)¹⁶. Age and gender were ascertained from the health survey and body mass
95 index was calculated from measured height and weight. Following pre-study
96 consensus work with a multidisciplinary team of practicing clinicians, we selected
97 static brief clinical assessments that could detect observable deficits, which will have
98 direct implications for both static and dynamic loading of the midfoot. These included
99 the following:

100

101 *Static foot posture*

102 i) Arch Index: ratio of middle third area to the whole foot area, excluding toes,
103 calculated from carbon footprints taken in relaxed bipedal standing. Higher
104 Arch Index ratios indicate lower arch^{17,18}.

105 ii) Foot Posture Index: 6-item assessment performed in relaxed bipedal
106 standing. A summative score (range, -12 to +12) classified feet as supinated,
107 normal or pronated¹⁹.

108 iii) Navicular height: height of the navicular tuberosity from the floor in relaxed bi-
109 pedal standing, measured in millimetres with a ruler, and normalised for foot
110 size by dividing by foot length²⁰.

111

112 *Range of motion (ROM)*

113 iv) 1st MTPJ dorsiflexion ROM: maximum passive hallux extension, measured in
114 degrees using a goniometer in non-weight-bearing with the ankle in a relaxed
115 position and the first ray allowed to freely plantarflex²¹.

116 v) Subtalar joint inversion/eversion ROM: maximum passive ROM measured in
117 degrees with a goniometer in non-weight-bearing²².

118 vi) Ankle dorsiflexion ROM, with the knee flexed/extended: active ROM
119 measured in degrees with an inclinometer during a weight-bearing lunge
120 test^{23,24}.

121

122 *Palpation and observation*

123 vii) Midfoot exostosis: palpable presence or absence of bony prominence on the
124 dorsum of the foot in non-weight-bearing.

125 viii) Plantar tenderness: palpable presence or absence of point tenderness at
126 plantar fascia-calcaneal insertion²⁵ and middle portion of plantar surface²⁶ in
127 non-weight-bearing.

128 ix) Lesser toe deformity: palpable presence or absence of deformities, in one or
129 more lesser toes, including mallet, hammer and claw toe in non-weight-
130 bearing and retracted toe observed in standing²⁷.

131 x) Hallux valgus: ascertained using five line drawings of the foot progressing in
132 severity (15 degree increments) using a validated self-report instrument and
133 dichotomised present or absent definition (three most severe versus two least
134 severe)²⁸.

135

136 For Arch Index, navicular height, 1st MTPJ dorsiflexion, subtalar inversion/eversion
137 and ankle dorsiflexion with the knee flexed/extended, intra-class correlation
138 coefficients (ICC) previously reported for intra-rater reliability range from 0.82-
139 0.99^{17,20-24}, with the Foot Posture Index being slightly lower (0.61)²⁰. Inter-rater
140 reliability ICC have been documented for subtalar inversion/eversion (0.73 and 0.62,
141 respectively)²² and ankle dorsiflexion with the knee flexed/extended (0.97 and 0.92,
142 respectively)^{23,24}. For the dichotomised hallux valgus definition, unweighted kappa
143 scores were 0.83 for intra-rater and 0.55 for inter-rater reliability²⁸.

144

145 **Statistical analysis**

146

147 All feet with midfoot pain were entered into the analysis. All continuous
148 variables were screened to check appropriate range values and to identify any
149 apparent outliers²⁹. Where possible, dichotomised or categorised cut-offs applied to

150 continuous variables were based on previous evidence. Across all feet, navicular
151 height was divided into tertiles on the variable distribution to produce categories
152 consistent with the Arch Index, and the subtalar and ankle range of motion variables
153 were dichotomised on the median, as no suitable prior information was identified. As
154 the proportion of missing data for each predictor variable was <5%, multiple
155 imputation was considered unnecessary.

156

157 The data had a non-hierarchical structure with feet nested within person and
158 were analysed using a random intercept multi-level logistic regression model³⁰. Each
159 predictor variable was individually entered into the model with presence of
160 symptomatic midfoot OA as the outcome. Significant independent predictor variables
161 ($p < 0.25$ from likelihood ratio tests³¹) were then simultaneously entered into the
162 model with age, gender and body mass index force-entered, and manual backward
163 elimination of variables ($p = 0.05$) performed. The final model was refitted using data
164 from participants with no missing predictor variable data. Predicted risks were
165 calculated on the estimated variable effects and the intercept for each foot. The
166 proportion of the sample that could be correctly classified (ruled-in as having
167 symptomatic midfoot OA) or correctly classified as midfoot pain (ruled-out for
168 symptomatic midfoot OA) was determined by imposing a practical cut-off of 50%.
169 Subsequently, sensitivity and specificity with 95% confidence intervals were
170 calculated for the overall final model.

171

172 Model performance was assessed with the calibration slope and area under
173 the curve (AUC). Ideally a calibration slope with a value of 1 indicates the predicted
174 and observed risks are the same³⁰, and an AUC value ≥ 0.8 indicates “excellent”

175 discrimination³¹. Model performance was then compared with a model containing
176 age, gender and body mass index only.

177

178 The internal validity of the final derived model and the performance measures
179 were evaluated using 1000 bias-corrected bootstrap samples with replacement
180 resampling on clusters, i.e. at the person level³². This is an important step in
181 checking the degree of statistical overfitting and therefore over-optimism in the
182 model's discriminative ability³³. Using the bias-corrected bootstrap model, sensitivity
183 and specificity were re-estimated.

184

185 Although dichotomising or categorising continuous predictors arguably assists
186 clinical interpretability, it has been criticised for resulting in a loss of information and
187 poorly fitting models³⁴. We therefore re-ran the model-fitting procedures with all
188 continuous predictor variables in their original form. The six-items of the Foot
189 Posture Index that generate a summative score were Rasch-transformed into a
190 single interval score, previously shown to improve internal construct validity³⁵. All
191 analyses were conducted using STATA V.13.0 (Stata Corporation, Texas, USA).

192

193 **RESULTS**

194

195 **Study participants**

196

197 Of the 560 participants who attended the research assessment clinic between June
198 2010 and September 2011, 525 were potentially eligible for this analysis following
199 the exclusion of individuals with incomplete pain data (n=8), absent radiographic

200 data (n=3) and inflammatory arthritis (n=24). This left 525 participants with foot pain
201 and radiographic data, of whom 274 participants had both midfoot pain and complete
202 radiographic data. Of these participants, 155 (57%) had midfoot pain only and 119
203 (43%) had symptomatic midfoot OA. From this sample of individuals, there were 263
204 feet with midfoot pain only and 149 with symptomatic midfoot OA (Figure 1). Mean
205 age (\pm SD) was 65.0 (8.6) years (age range 50-87), and 54% were female.

206

207 All clinical values for each predictor variable appeared appropriate and no
208 data distributions were unduly influenced by outliers.

209

210 [Figure 1]

211

212

213 **Diagnostic model**

214

215 Of the 16 selected predictor variables, 10 were associated with the outcome ($p < 0.25$
216 from likelihood ratio tests) (Table 1). These were age, body mass index, Arch Index,
217 Foot Posture Index, navicular height, subtalar inversion, ankle dorsiflexion with the
218 knee flexed, midfoot exostosis, plantar fascia insertion tenderness and lesser toe
219 deformity. Although gender was not statistically significant ($p = 0.28$), this was also a
220 retained force-entered variable, due to previously established and consistent links
221 with OA.

222

223 [Table 1]

224

225 Manual backward selected was performed on 262 participants with complete
226 data on all the included predictor variables and produced a final model with six
227 parameters from four variables. These included the three force-entered variables
228 (age, gender and body mass index) and Arch Index. The final model was refitted to
229 269 participants with complete data on the retained predictor variables (Table 2).

230

231 [Table 2]

232

233 The model fit was poor for the observed data (calibration slope, 0.64, 95%CI:
234 0.39, 0.89). Although Arch Index was marginally informative when added to age,
235 gender and body mass index, discrimination remained fair-to-poor (AUC, 0.64,
236 95%CI: 0.58, 0.70 vs 0.62, 95%CI: 0.57, 0.68). For the overall model, sensitivity was
237 29.9% (95%CI: 22.7, 38.0) and specificity was 87.5% (95%CI: 82.9, 91.3).

238

239 Comparison of the beta coefficients and odds ratios for the final derived model
240 (Table 2) and the same estimates following bias-corrected bootstrapping indicated
241 the model to be over-optimistic (data not shown). Overall bias-corrected model
242 sensitivity was 25.9% (95%CI: 19.0, 33.7) and specificity was 89.9% (95%CI: 85.5,
243 93.3).

244

245 **Sensitivity analyses**

246

247 Repeating the modelling with variables in their original continuous form, did not
248 identify any additional predictors, and overall model performance was effectively
249 unchanged (calibration slope, 0.61, 95%CI: 0.38, 0.85; AUC, 0.66, 95%CI: 0.60,

250 0.71; sensitivity, 53.2%, 95%CI: 41.5, 64.7; specificity, 67.6, 95%CI: 62.2, 72.6)
251 (data not shown).

252

253 **DISCUSSION**

254

255 Our study found that in a population-based sample of adults aged 50 years and older
256 with midfoot pain, brief clinical assessments added little to age, gender and body
257 mass index in the discrimination of individuals with underlying midfoot OA on plain
258 radiographs from those without these structural changes. Although several physical
259 examination variables were associated with symptomatic midfoot OA, these were
260 often either too weakly associated to be included in a diagnostic model (Foot Posture
261 Index, subtalar inversion, plantar fascia insertion tenderness and lesser toe
262 deformity) or lacked strong association after adjusting for age (navicular height) or
263 combinations of age, gender, body mass index and Arch Index (ankle dorsiflexion
264 with the knee extended and midfoot exostosis). The retained Arch Index predictor,
265 indicating a more pronated foot posture among those with symptomatic midfoot OA,
266 would appear to be biologically plausible and is consistent with earlier
267 observations^{36,37}. In isolation, the Arch Index appeared to be a potentially useful
268 predictor of symptomatic midfoot OA.

269

270 Although the low overall bias-corrected sensitivity (25.9%) is accompanied by
271 a high specificity (89.9%), considered together with an AUC of 0.64, the final model
272 remains only fair-to-poor at discriminating between people with and without
273 symptomatic midfoot OA.

274

275 Accurate clinical diagnosis of symptomatic OA compared to plain radiographs
276 has been mixed at other joint sites including the knee^{7,38,39}, hip^{40, 41}, and hand⁴².
277 Despite this, the clinical diagnosis of OA has been recommended in previous
278 guidelines^{6,43}. At the foot, a diagnostic model developed to predict the presence of
279 radiographic OA at the 1st MTPJ in adults with 1st MTPJ pain reported better
280 performance than the present model (AUC, 0.87, 95%CI: 0.80, 0.93)⁸. Better
281 discrimination may be explained by the more anatomically specific assessment of
282 the 1st MTPJ used in the Zammit et al⁸. study, compared to the broader foot
283 examination we used to identify radiographic OA in the midfoot complex.

284

285 Strengths of this study are the population-based sample and standardised
286 quality-controlled protocol for the collection of clinical and radiographic data. Despite
287 this, there are a number of methodological issues that may explain the fair-to-poor
288 performance of the model. First, the selected predictors may lack discriminatory
289 ability. Even if measured perfectly, these clinical assessments may not be very
290 strongly associated with the presence/absence of radiographic OA. For example, if
291 they are causes of midfoot OA, they may be relatively weak causes, or if they are
292 manifestations of midfoot OA, they may provide relatively weak signals. The strength
293 of univariable association required for adequate discrimination is very high⁴⁴. Given
294 the complex pathogenesis and structure/pain associations in OA, discrimination from
295 any one single measure is unlikely, which supports the need to evaluate
296 multivariable clinical assessment models. The present model examined 16 predictor
297 variables, however soft tissue assessments such as posterior tibial tendon
298 dysfunction or local swelling and tenderness were not considered. It is possible that

299 our model could be improved by adding more clinical predictors or other diagnostic
300 markers^{45,46}.

301

302 Second, random and systematic errors in the clinical assessment
303 measurements may also influence our findings. All assessors undertook protocol
304 training and quality control monitoring, and we also chose clinical assessments
305 previously shown to be reliable. However, we did not formally evaluate the reliability
306 of clinical assessments within this study.

307

308 Third, symptomatic midfoot OA in an individual joint was defined as ≥ 2 for
309 osteophytes or joint space narrowing using the scoring system established by Menz
310 et al¹⁵. With nearly half (43%) of the 274 eligible participants comprising the study
311 sample having radiographic midfoot OA, this underscores the very high prevalence
312 among older adults that report midfoot pain. Of the 263 feet with midfoot pain but
313 classed as 'no midfoot radiographic OA', 248 (94%) had a score of one. Whilst grade
314 one radiographic changes did not meet our threshold for symptomatic midfoot OA, it
315 may be that disease manifestations and variations in structural appearance between
316 grade one and two are too subtle to be clinically discernible. Recent work on knee
317 OA has shown that grade one is a strong predictor of future grade two⁴⁷. This
318 suggests that grade one may have been a more suitable cut-off. Since it is not
319 possible to know from this sample what the prevalence of grade one midfoot
320 changes may be in an asymptomatic population, a question for future research is
321 whether midfoot pain alone in adults aged 50 years and over without inflammatory
322 arthritis provides adequate grounds for 'ruling in' symptomatic midfoot OA.

323

324 By assembling the sample from a cohort of individuals with foot pain in the
325 last 12 months, it is possible that participants may have had concurrent symptoms
326 elsewhere in their foot. Restricting analysis to individuals with foot pain only in the
327 midfoot region was not possible due to small numbers. A sensitivity analysis, where
328 univariable analyses for all predictor variables (excluding the force-entered variables:
329 age, gender and body mass index) was repeated after excluding 33 individuals with
330 symptomatic 1st MTPJ OA (defined as co-occurring pain and radiographic change as
331 defined above), indicated that 14 of the 16 observed associations had similar
332 magnitude and precision that would not have statistically significantly altered the
333 model (data not shown). Although the four selected joints can be reliably scored and
334 used to represent midfoot OA, this present analysis pertains only to the identification
335 of radiographic OA in the medial midfoot. Whilst clinically the occurrence of OA in the
336 lateral midfoot is understood to be rare by comparison⁴⁸, osteoarthritic changes in
337 other midfoot joints could also contribute to symptoms in both midfoot pain and
338 symptomatic midfoot OA groups. Furthermore, an alternative reference standard
339 such as magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or ultrasound may have generated
340 different results and future studies could consider comparing the use of other
341 imaging modalities for the foot.

342

343 Finally, misclassification may have arisen in the musculoskeletal midfoot pain
344 domain. Narrowing this domain to exclude those with prevalent conditions such as
345 diabetes, peripheral vascular disease or gout may help in being able to diagnose
346 symptomatic midfoot OA, but this would also limit the generalizability of such insights
347 as multimorbidity is often quite high in this age group. Of the 274 participants in this
348 sample, 19% and 37% had self-reported diabetes and peripheral vascular disease

349 respectively. Only 5% had a primary care consultation for gout within 18 months
350 either side of research clinic attendance.

351

352 The population-based recruitment for this study meant that although the
353 spectrum of severity across the sample is likely to be mild, this has relevance for
354 primary care. Furthermore, although a physical examination may be of limited value
355 for discriminating the presence or absence of symptomatic midfoot OA, brief clinical
356 assessments may be better used to identify abnormal structural and postural
357 presentations that could inform more targeted treatments.

358

359 In summary, this study did not allow development of a clinically practicable
360 diagnostic model for symptomatic midfoot OA. Person-level information including
361 age, gender and body mass index provided only marginal diagnostic information and
362 only very minor additional improvements in model performance were achieved with
363 brief clinical assessment information. Before primary care clinicians can be confident
364 that the diagnosis of symptomatic midfoot OA necessitates the use of x-ray, future
365 research should examine whether these or other, more anatomically-specific, clinical
366 assessments can show better discrimination in other samples, using alternative
367 modelling techniques, or compared to other imaging modalities such as MRI and
368 ultrasound.

369

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379 2000. All rights reserved).

380

381 **Contributions**

382 MJT, ER, GP, AM and HBM conceived the study. MJT, ER, GP and AM designed
383 the study. MJT, ER and MM were responsible for data acquisition. Analysis was
384 undertaken by MJT and TR. All authors interpreted data, drafted or revised the
385 article critically for important intellectual content, and approved the final version of
386 the manuscript.

387

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397 **Conflicts of interest**

398 The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

399

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547 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

548 **Fig 1.** Flowchart of clinic attenders into analysis.

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567 **Table 1 Descriptive characteristics and univariable analysis for the occurrence of symptomatic**
 568 **midfoot OA.**

Predictor variable (categorisation)	Total	Midfoot pain	Symptomatic midfoot OA	Multi-level logistic regression Midfoot pain vs symptomatic midfoot OA p^*
People	(n=274)	(n=155)	(n=119)	
<i>Demographics</i>				
Age (years)				
50-64	142 (52)	92 (59)	50 (42)	
65-74	89 (32)	48 (31)	41 (34)	
75+	43 (16)	15 (10)	28 (24)	0.0145
Gender				
Male	125 (46)	73 (47)	52 (44)	
Female	149 (54)	82 (53)	67 (56)	0.2751
<i>Body composition</i>				
Body mass index				
Non-obese (<30 kg/m ²)	134 (50)	85 (56)	49 (42)	
Obese (≥30 kg/m ²)	136 (50)	67 (44)	69 (58)	0.0069
Feet	(n=412)	(n=263)	(n=149)	
<i>Static foot posture</i>				
Arch Index (ratio)				
High arch	57 (14)	42 (16)	15 (10)	
Normal	265 (64)	178 (68)	87 (58)	
Low arch	89 (22)	42 (16)	47 (32)	0.0013
Foot Posture Index (-12 to +12)				
Supinated (<0)	34 (8)	26 (10)	8 (5)	
Normal (0-5)	212 (52)	132 (50)	80 (54)	
Pronated (≥6)	165 (40)	105 (40)	60 (41)	0.1861
Navicular height (ratio)				
High (0.18-0.29)	136 (33)	92 (35)	44 (30)	
Normal (0.16-0.18)	136 (33)	95 (37)	41 (28)	
Low (0.06-0.16)	137 (34)	73 (28)	64 (43)	0.0161
<i>Range of motion</i>				
1st MTPJ (degrees)				
dorsiflexion				
Low (<64)	197 (48)	123 (47)	74 (50)	
High (≥64)	215 (52)	140 (53)	75 (50)	0.4242
Subtalar joint (degrees)				
Inversion				
Low (2-25)	215 (52)	130 (49)	85 (58)	
High (26-50)	195 (48)	133 (51)	62 (42)	0.0858
Eversion				
Low (0-11)	215 (52)	136 (52)	79 (54)	
High (12-55)	195 (48)	127 (48)	68 (46)	0.7425

569 **Table 1 continued...**

Predictor variable (categorisation)	Total (n=412)	Midfoot pain (n=263)	Symptomatic midfoot OA (n=149)	Multi-level logistic regression Midfoot pain vs symptomatic midfoot OA <i>p</i> *
Ankle dorsiflexion (degrees)				
Knee flexed				
Low (55-78 from 0)	191 (47)	106 (41)	85 (59)	
High (28-54 from 0)	212 (47)	153 (59)	59 (41)	0.0069
Knee extended				
Low (64-89 from 0)	201 (50)	125 (48)	76 (52)	
High (35-63 from 0)	204 (50)	134 (52)	70 (48)	0.3978
<i>Palpation / Observation</i>				
Midfoot exostosis				
Absent	141 (34)	78 (30)	63 (42)	
Present	271 (66)	185 (70)	86 (58)	0.0139
PF insertion tenderness				
Absent	322 (78)	202 (77)	120 (81)	
Present	89 (22)	60 (23)	29 (19)	0.2405
PF midsole tenderness				
Absent	194 (47)	128 (49)	66 (45)	
Present	217 (53)	135 (51)	82 (55)	0.9655
Lesser toe deformity				
Absent	147 (36)	102 (39)	45 (30)	
Present	263 (64)	160 (61)	103 (70)	0.0773
Hallux valgus				
Absent	263 (64)	169 (64)	94 (64)	
Present	148 (36)	94 (36)	54 (36)	0.6799

570 **p* values are for the likelihood ratio test, with significance set at 0.25.
571 MTPJ, metatarsophalangeal joint; PF, plantar fascia.
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581 **Table 2 Multivariable multi-level logistic regression model for symptomatic midfoot OA.**

Predictor variable	Total	Symptomatic midfoot OA	Multi-level logistic regression midfoot pain vs symptomatic midfoot OA	
			β (95% CI)	OR (95% CI)
People	(n=269)	(n=118)		
Age (years)			1	1
50-64	137 (51)	49 (42)	0.49 (-0.31, 1.28)	1.63 (0.73, 3.61)
65-74	89 (33)	41 (35)	1.16 (0.12, 2.20)	3.19 (1.13, 9.05)
75+	43 (16)	28 (24)		
Gender			1	1
Male	121 (45)	52 (44)	0.14 (-0.57, 0.85)	1.15 (0.56, 2.35)
Female	148 (55)	66 (56)		
Body mass index				
Non-obese (<30 kg/m ²)	133 (49)	49 (42)	1	1
Obese (\geq 30 kg/m ²)	136 (51)	69 (58)	0.71 (-0.04, 1.46)	2.03 (0.96, 4.29)
Feet	(n=404)	(n=147)		
Arch Index			1	1
Normal (0.21-0.28)	262 (65)	85 (58)	-0.19 (-1.21, 0.83)	0.82 (0.30, 2.28)
High arch (<0.21)	55 (14)	15 (10)	1.18 (0.31, 2.05)	3.25 (1.36, 7.76)
Low arch (>0.28)	87 (22)	47 (32)		
Constant			-1.91 (-2.78, -1.03)	

582 β , beta coefficient; OR, odds ratio; CI, confidence intervals.

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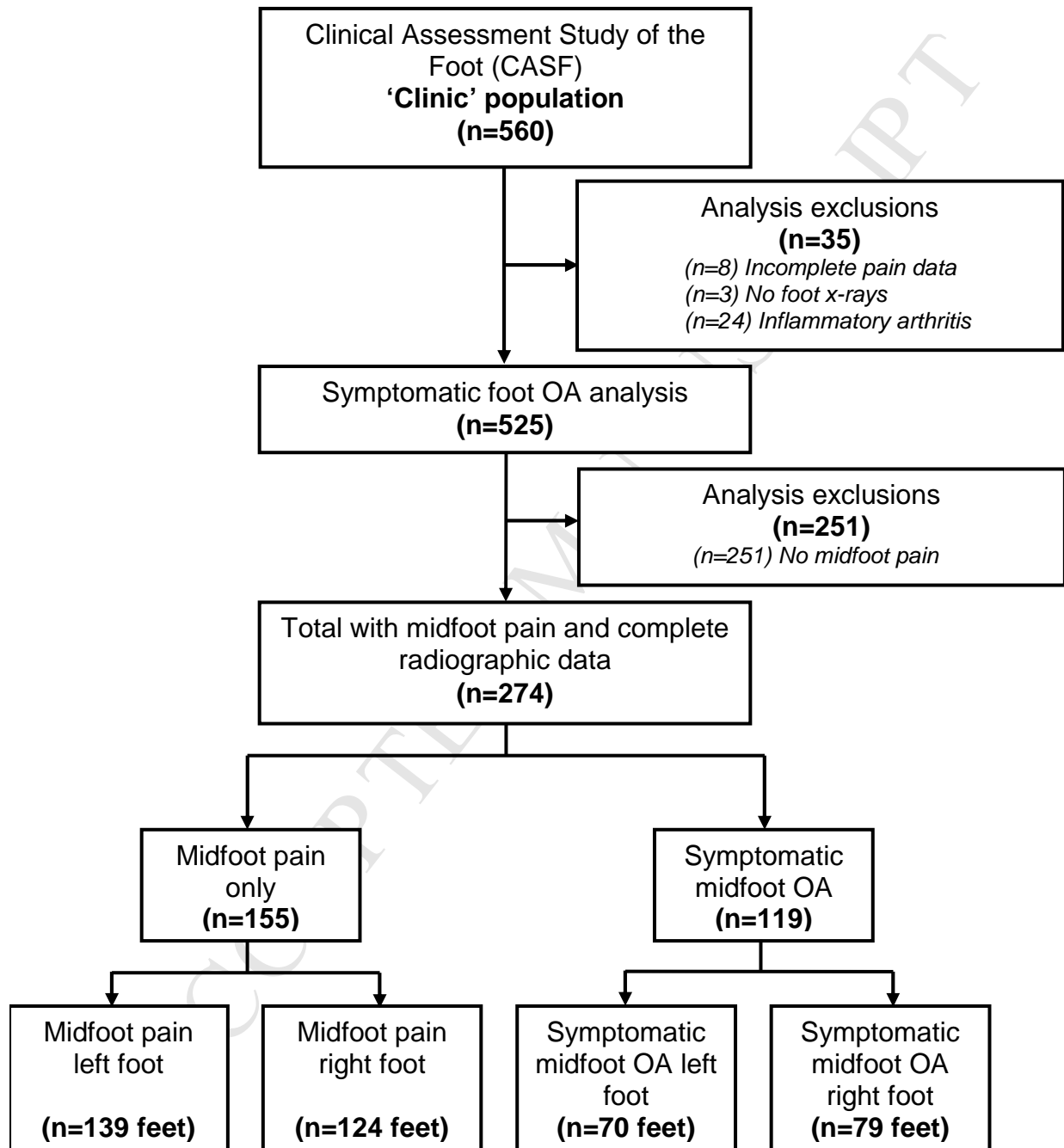
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596 **Figure 1**

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