

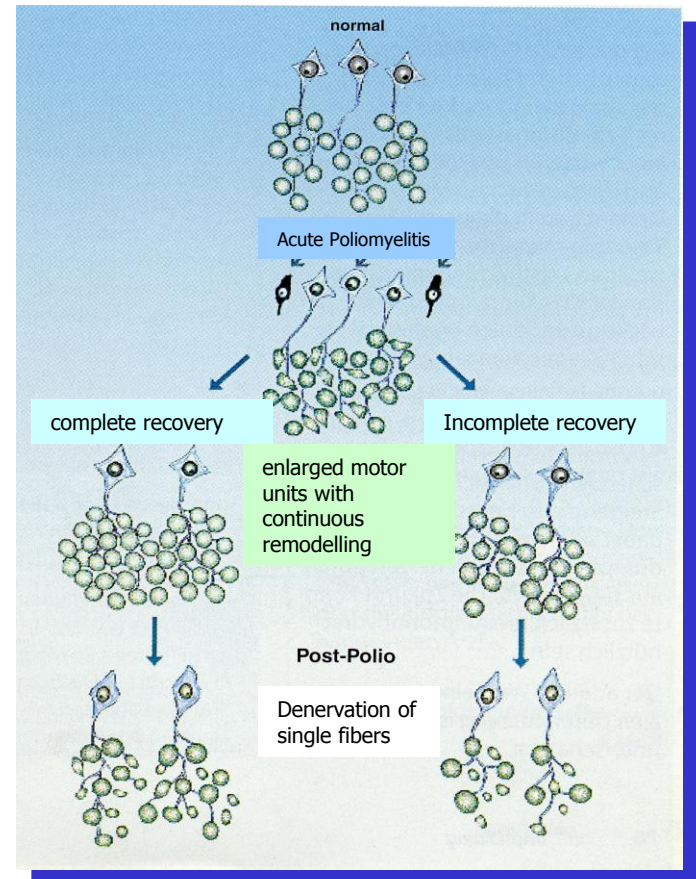
# Latest news in orthotics for polio survivors

Barbara Bocker, UC Smolenski, Institute of Physiotherapy,  
Friedrich-Schiller-University Jena, Germany

PPS (Halstead, Rossi 1987)

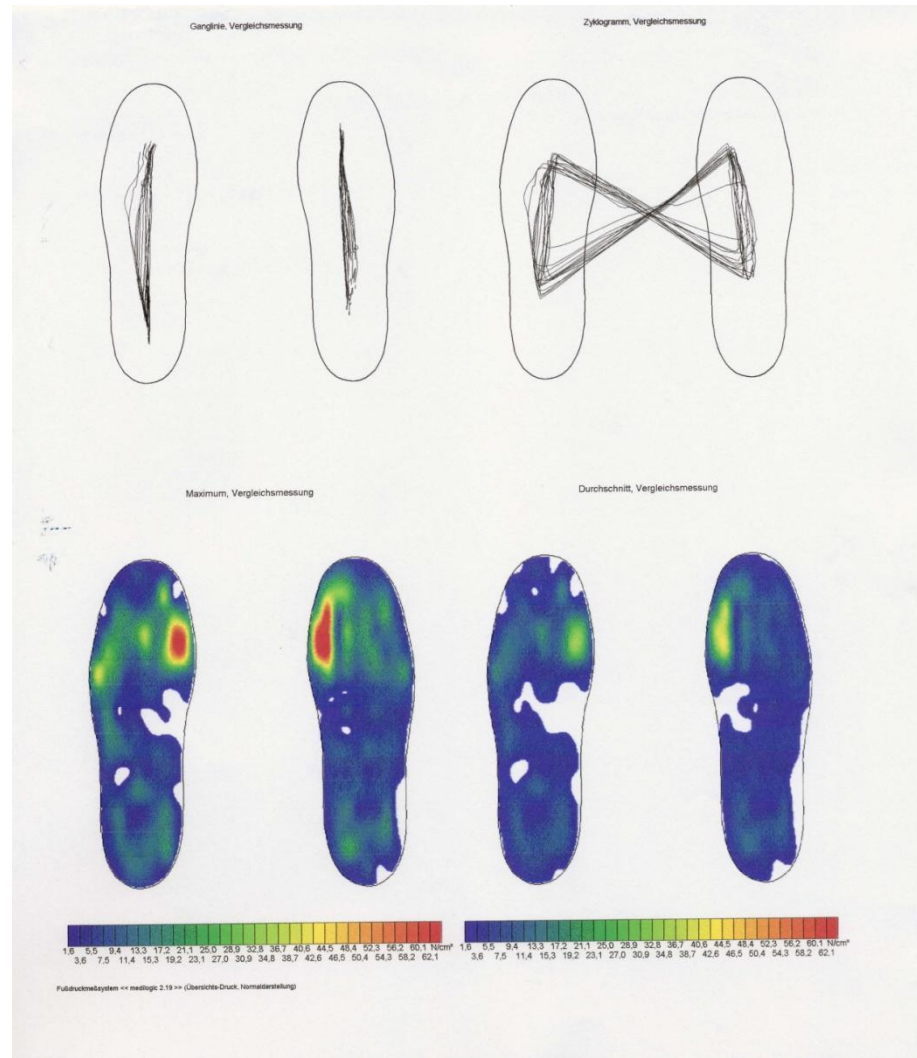
Decades after acute disease :

- new paralyzes of limbs and trunk
- muscular discomfort, pain
- fatigue
- intolerance of coldness

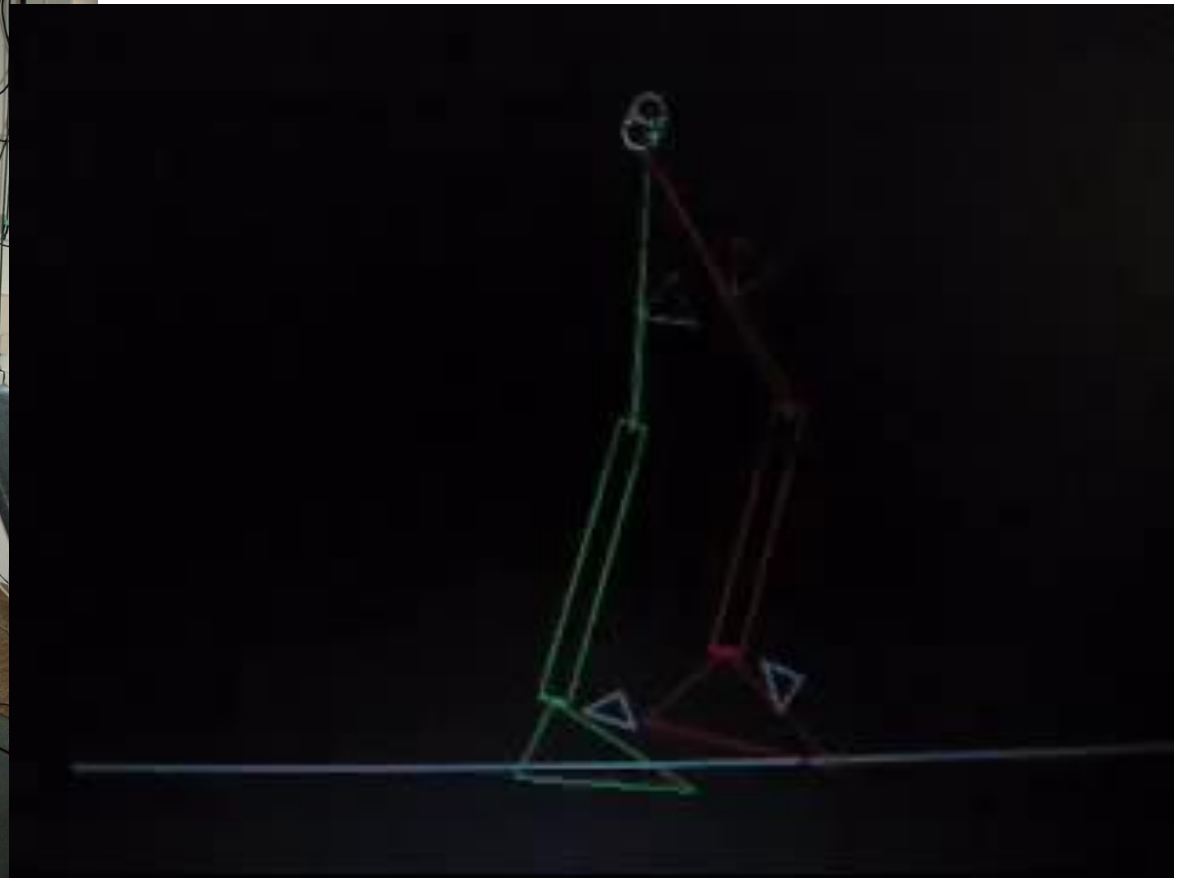




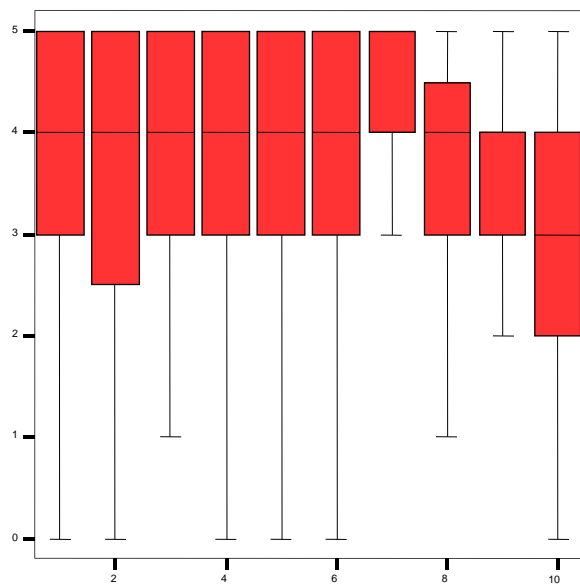
# Gait analyses (dynamic foot pressure)



# 3D-Gait analyses lower limb angles

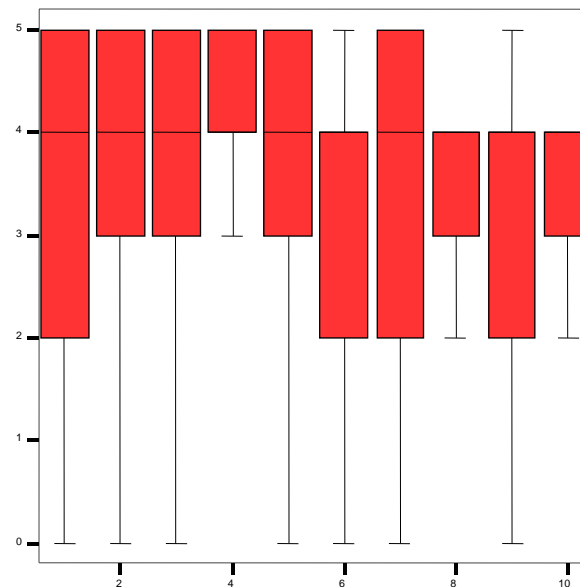


# M. quadrizeps – 10 years



right

Muscle strength  
(Janda)



left

Control  
examination in  
ten years



## Surface-EMG: Study Design

---

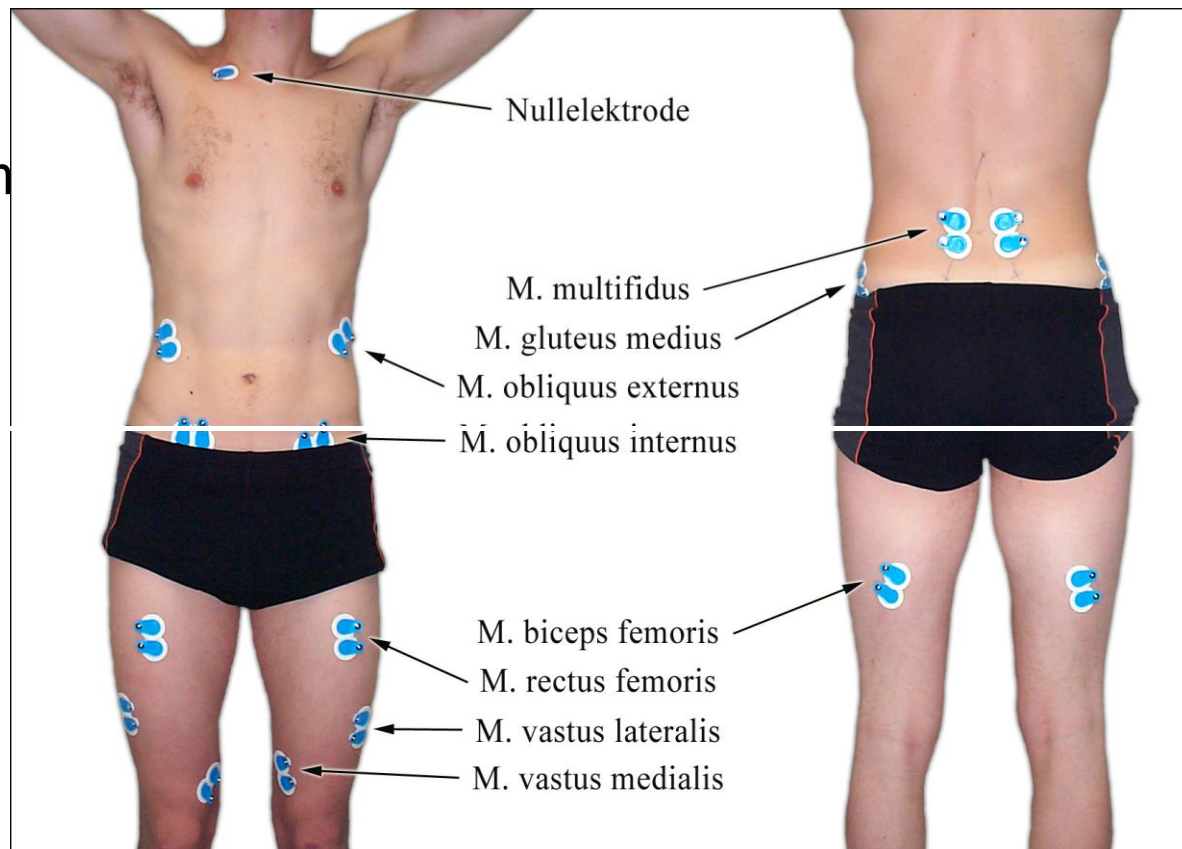
26 patients with a postpolio syndrome  
(age 63 years, 17 female, 9 male)

compared with

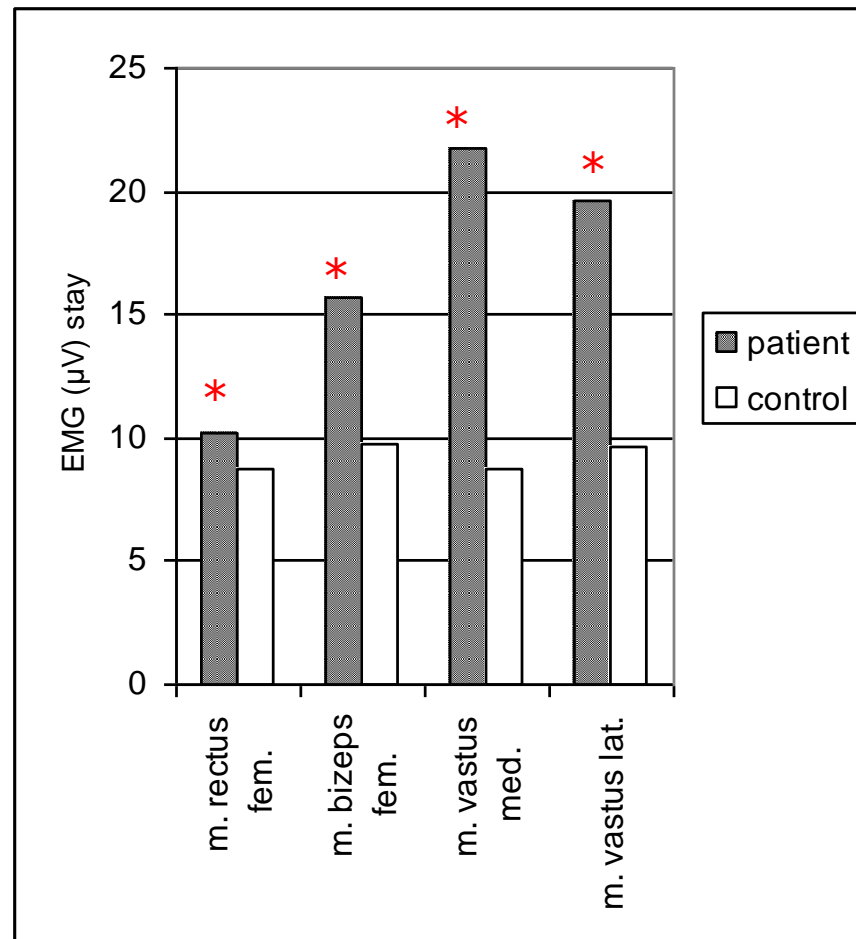
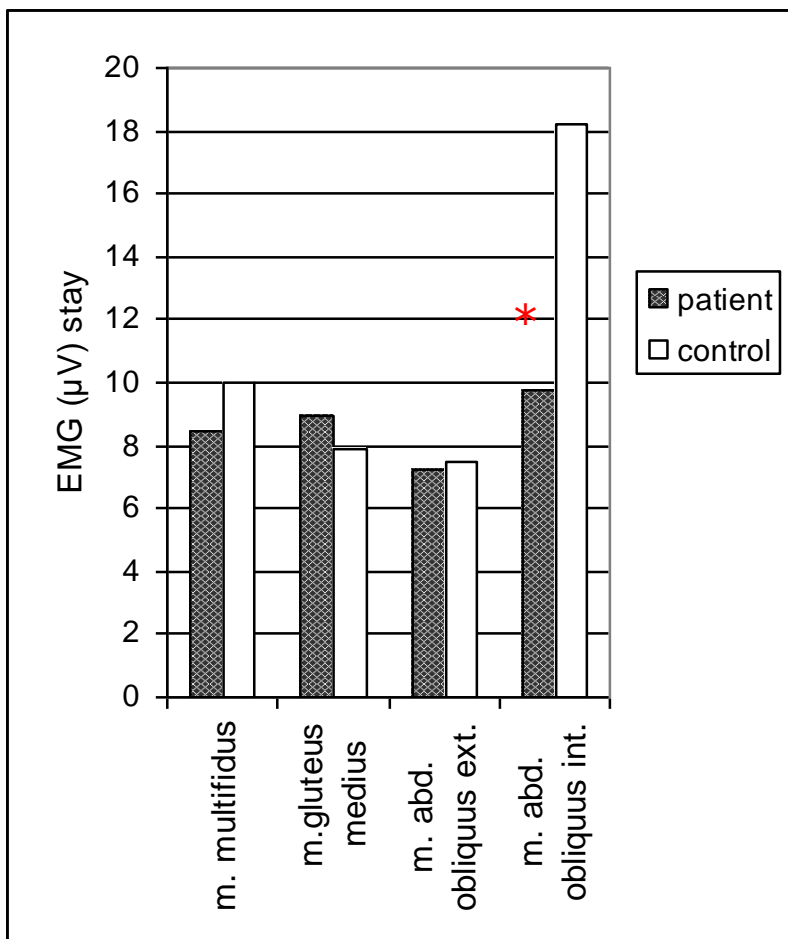
26 healthy persons (control)  
( age 60 years, 20 female, 6 male)

## Surface-EMG: Muscles

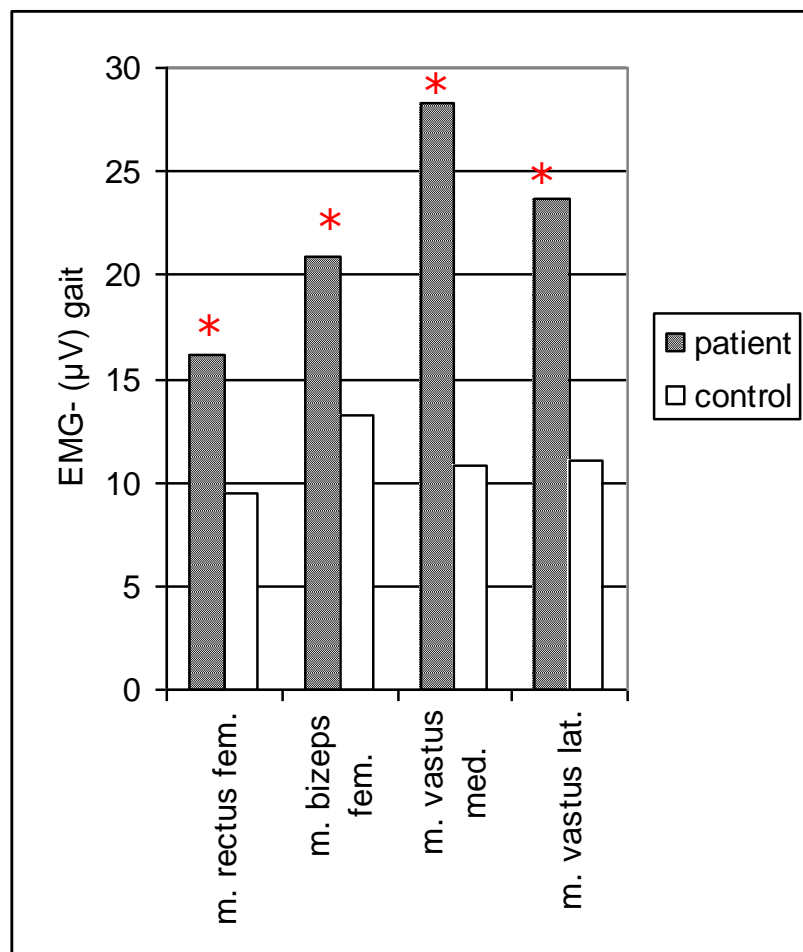
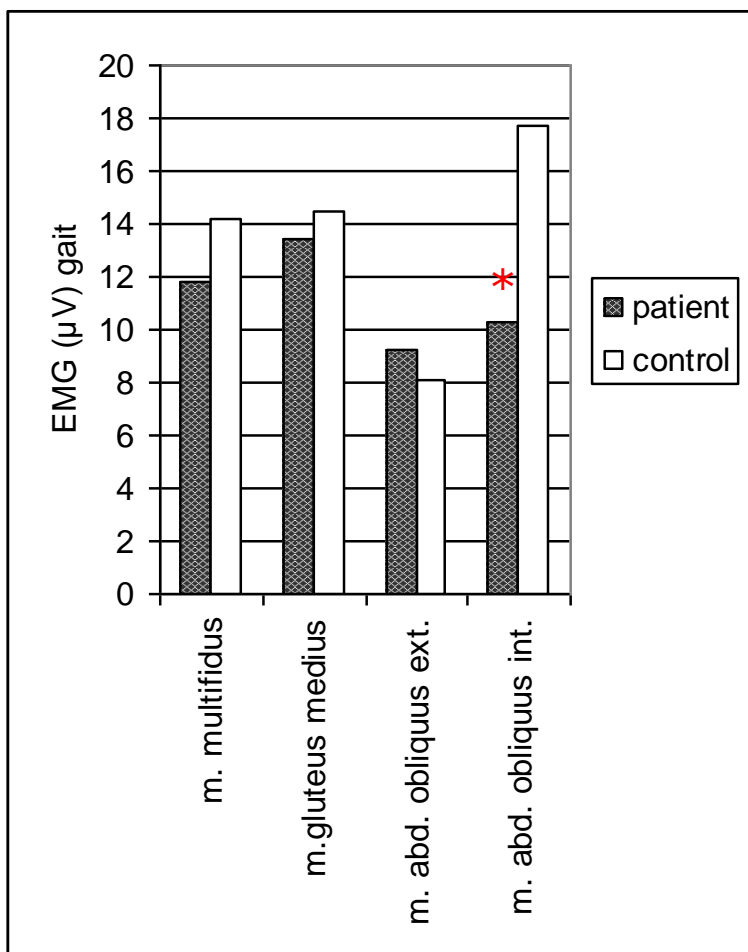
Surface-EMG by means of an eight channel system of the Company Sinfomed



## Surface-EMG: Results during stance



## Surface-EMG: Results during gait





## Surface-EMG: Conclusion

---

muscles of the lower limb could be overused according to their increased motor units

exercises should advise for muscles without these overuse phenomenon

instable extremities need support by orthosis and training of activities of daily living.



## Surface-EMG: Home exercises – results during stance

---

mean amplitude

	Baseline	training	1 month follow up	6 months follow up	P
M.rektus fem.	10,6	10,4	9,8	11,0	0,003
M.biceps fem.	15,1	12,6	12,4	13,4	0,009
M.vastus med.	23,3	17,0	13,7	17,0	0,033
M.vastus lat.	17,9	17,1	15,5	17,4	n.s.
M.gluteus med.	8,7	8,2	8,7	8,8	n.s.
M.obliquus int.	8,7	9,1	8,1	7,8	0,045
M.obliquus ext.	7,1	7,0	7,0	7,0	n.s.
M.Multifideus	8,3	8,2	8,1	8,7	n.s.



## Orthotic supply: aim

---

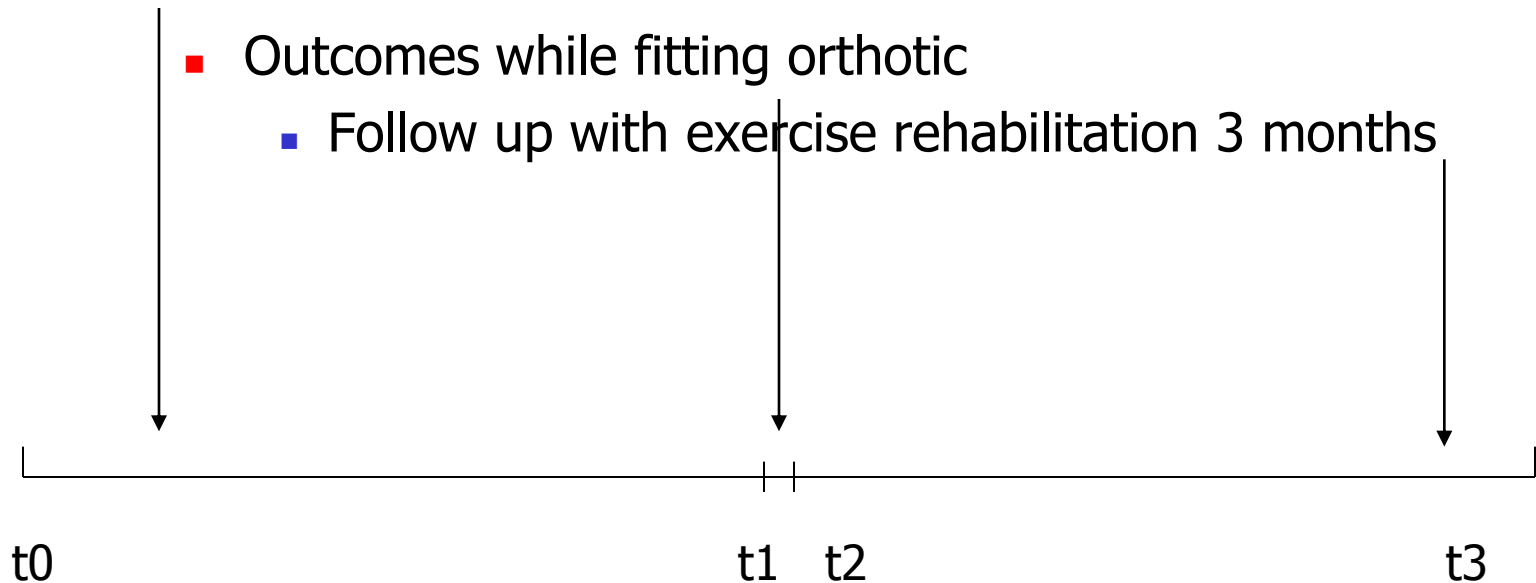
- functional benefit, more normal, energy efficient gait
- improved life quality
- reduced pain
- relaxed overstrained muscles
- prevent overload



## Orthotic supply: study design

---

- Longitudinal clinical observation
- Baseline 3 months before orthotic
  - Outcomes while fitting orthotic
    - Follow up with exercise rehabilitation 3 months





## Orthotic supply: Patients

---

n = 13, Indication for femoral orthosis in 2009

n = 10 meet followed

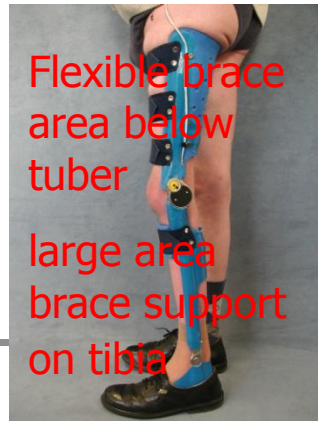
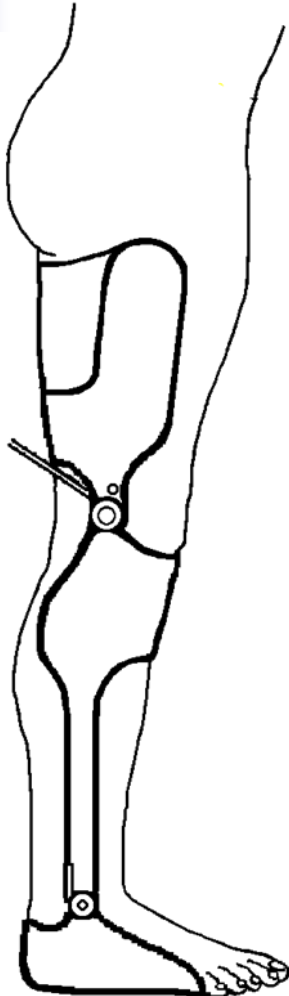
### Inclusion criterias:

- clinical paresis of the lower limb with partial paralysis of the quadriceps muscle and weakness of the dorsal foot flexors with muscle strength grade 0-3 after history of poliomyelitis anterior acuta
- shortening of the leg , but < 3 cm
- instability of the knee joint: decentralisation of the patella, hyperextension of the knee joint while standing, varus or valgus misalignment

### Exclusion criterias:

- secondary disease with other gait disorder
- ankylosis in the leg
- inability to walk
- orthosis

# Orthotic supply Method



- Carbon custom-made type-7 orthosis (Steinfeld) for the whole leg with a lockable knee joint
- compensates misalignments of the mechanical axis and shortenings of the leg.
- Three months before (t0), immediately before (t1) as well as at the first time of dressing the orthosis (t2) and 3 months after getting the orthosis incl. gait training (t3) the efficiency of the treatment was assessed.

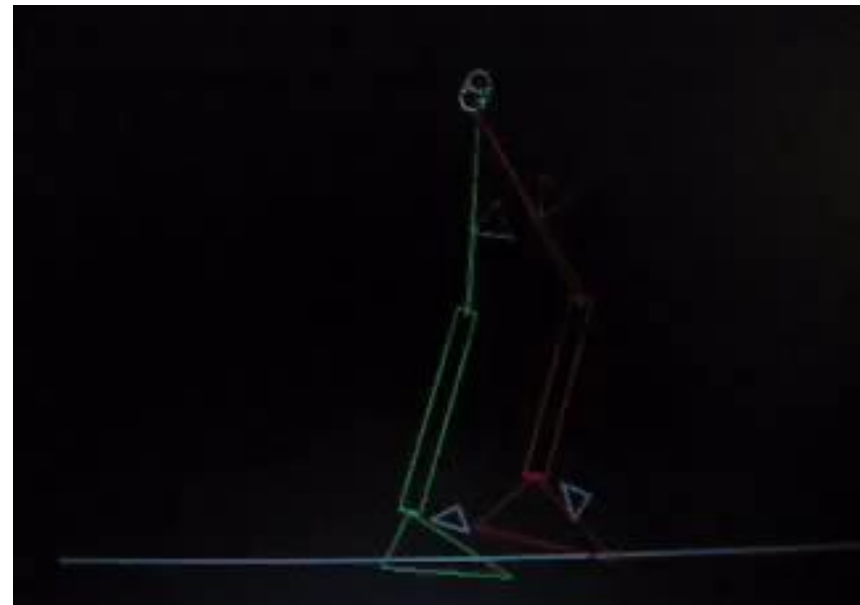
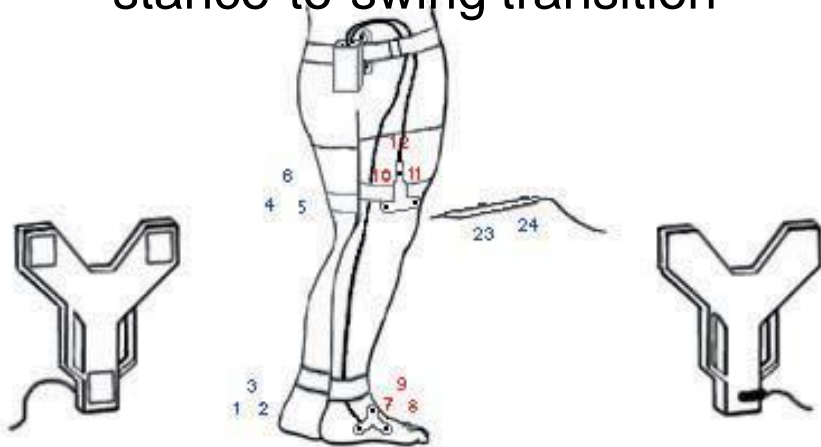
## Orthotic supply: Outcomes

Surface-EMG by means of an eight channel system of the Company Sinfomed

- stance phase of 10 seconds
- walking on a distance of 5 m

Kinematic gait analysis with the Zebris WinGait-HS v3.1.35 device

- duration of the stance phase
- knee joint angle at the stance-to-swing transition





## Orthotic supply: Results

---

n = 6 patients:

average of age: 61 years

5 female, 1 male

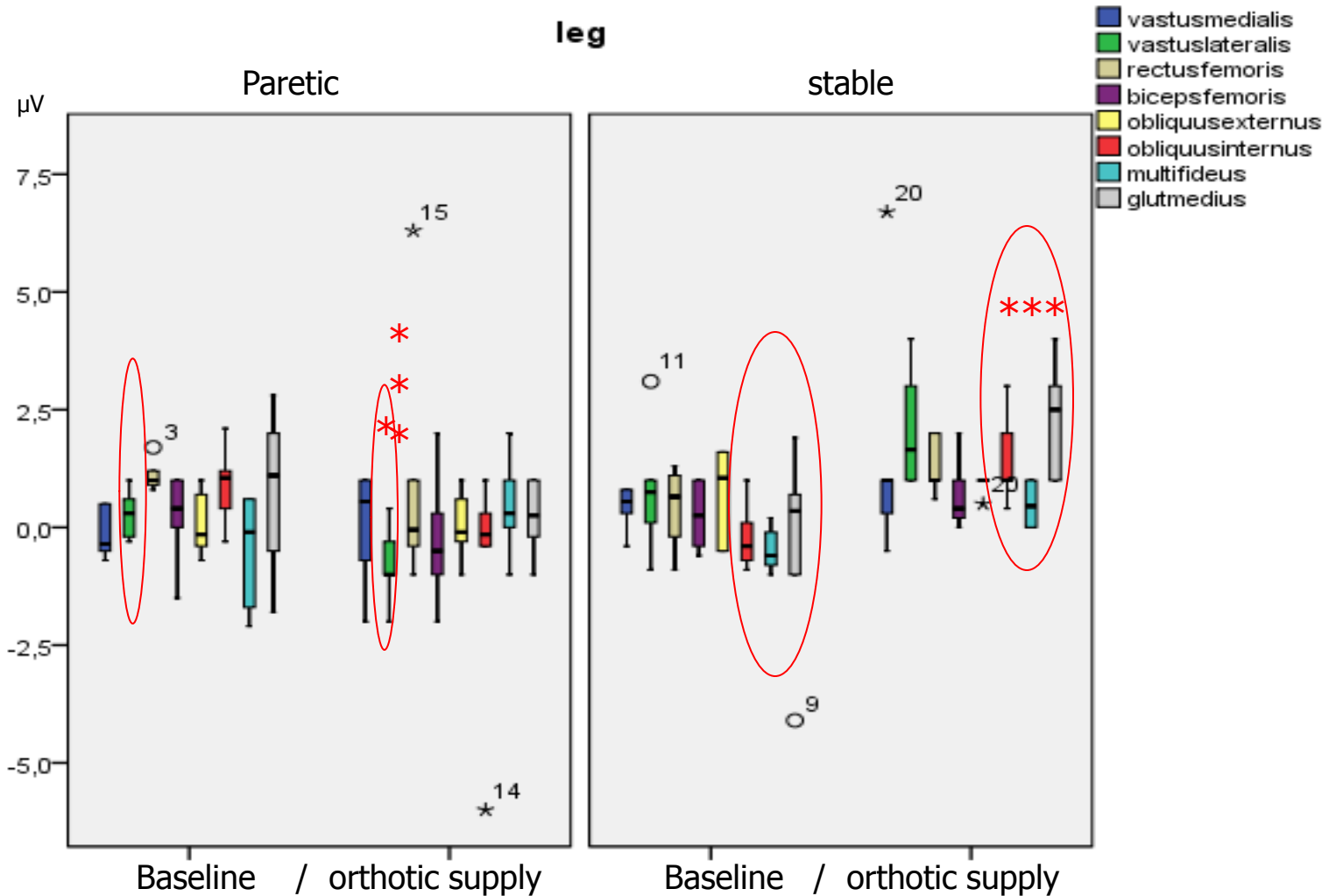
n = 4 dropouts

2 patients became ill

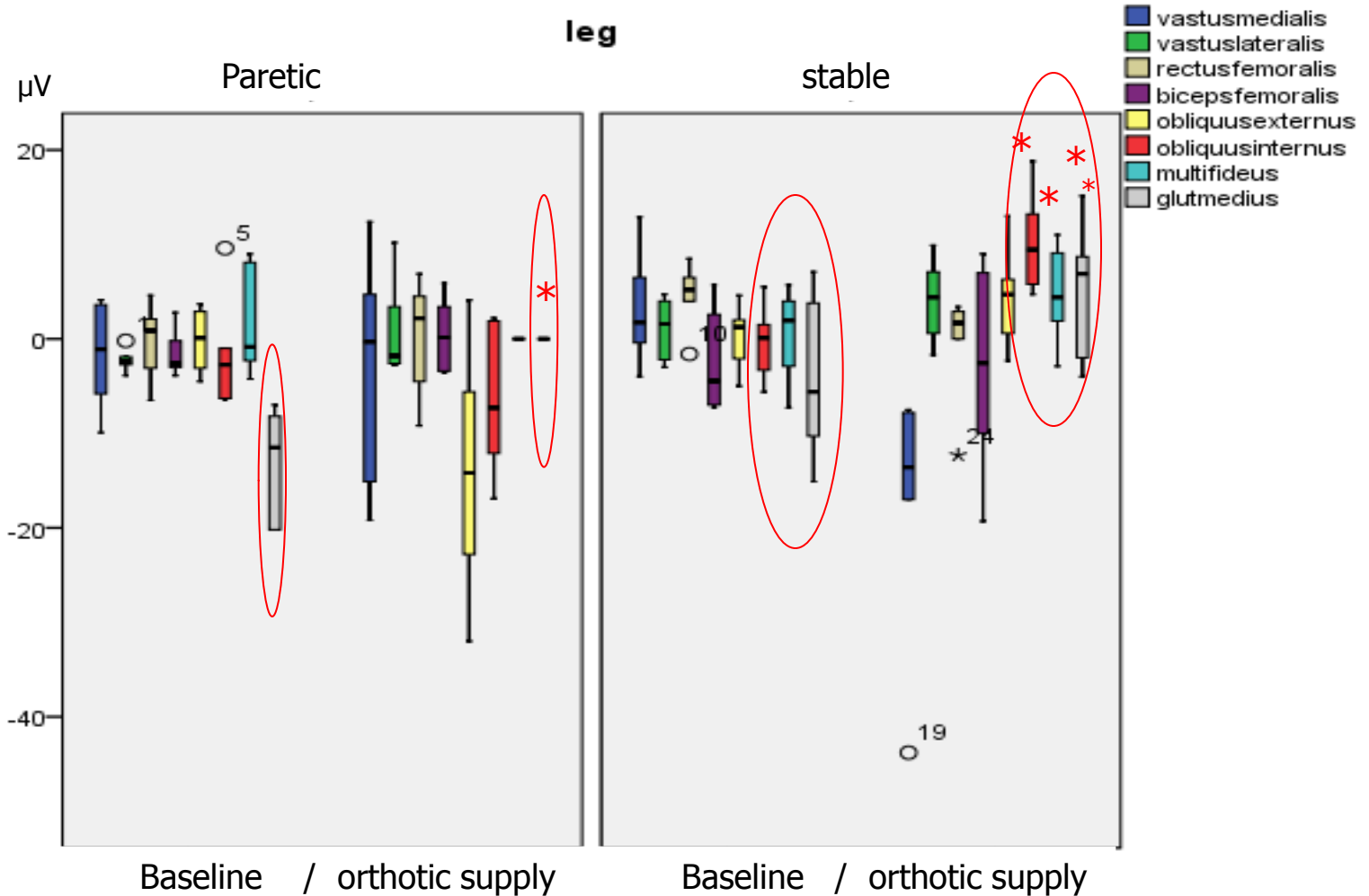
1 patient had no time for follow up

1 patient got no payment of orthotic

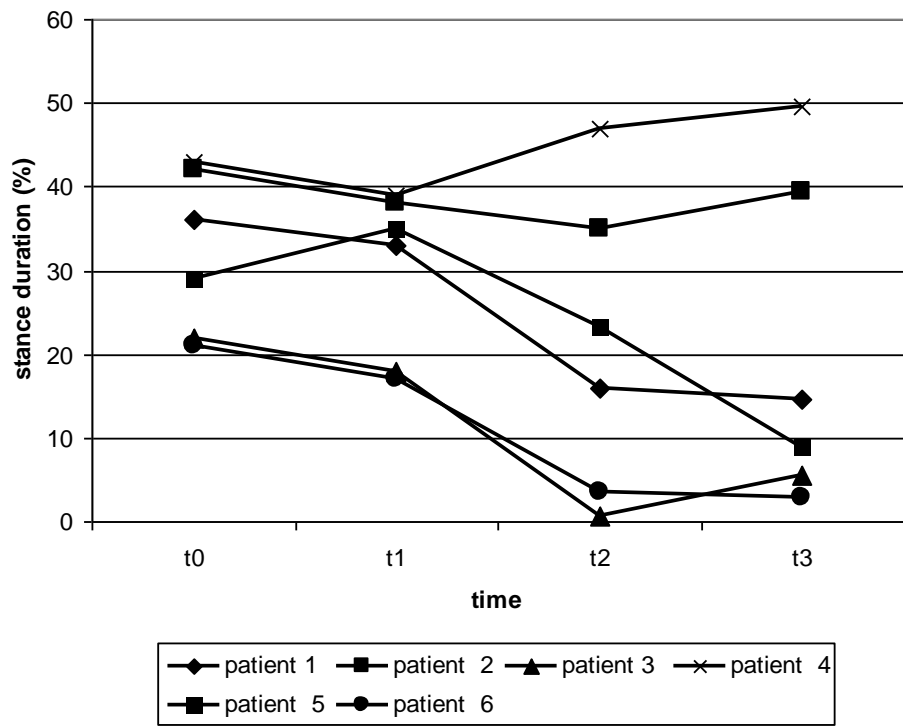
# Orthotic supply: EMG during stance



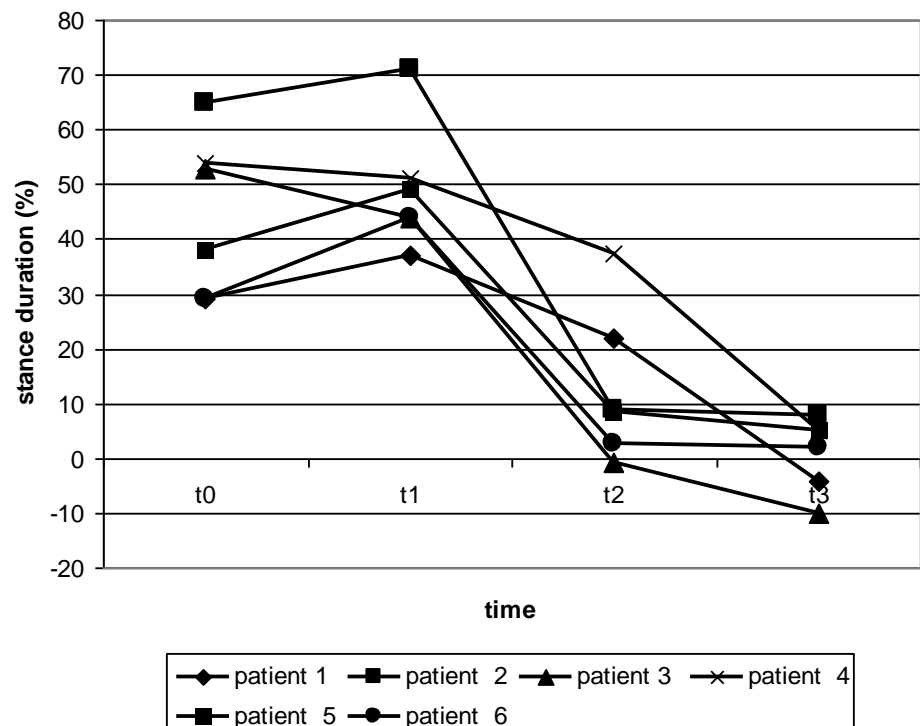
# Orthotic supply: EMG during gait



# Orthotic supply: Stance duration

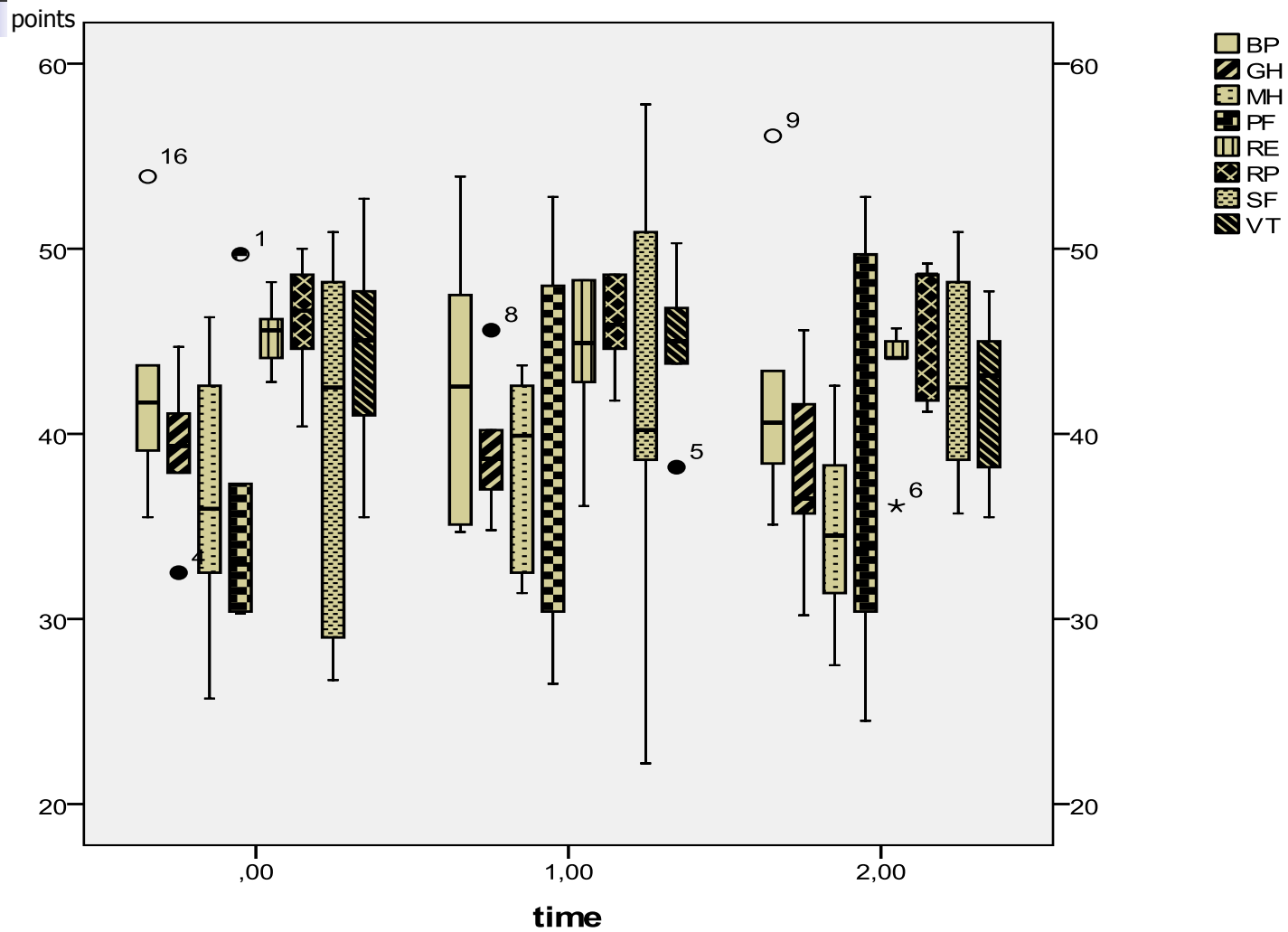


with orthosis



without orthosis

# Orthotic supply: SF 36





## Conclusion

---

- Trunk muscles have to work harder to stabilize the new standing position with orthosis  
→ no orthosis without enough muscle activity
- Increased stability during walking
- Knee angle was corrected to prevent arthrosis
- No orthosis without exercises



## Discussion for further studies

---

- Are 3 months training enough with the new orthosis?
- When is the right time to get an orthosis?
- Which conditions indicate the use of full leg orthosis? / Which measurements are advised?
- Are swing-phase controlled knee joints an alternative to remaining activity of the pelvis stabilizing musculature, to allow every-day movements and lower energy consumption ?



Thank you

