**HEAVY MANUAL WORK IS ASSOCIATED WITH AN INCREASED RISK OF SEVERE LUMBAR SPINAL STENOSIS ON MRI: A CASE CONTROL ANALYSIS WITHIN THE WAKAYAMA SPINE STUDY**

**(Short title: Manual work and lumbar spinal stenosis)**

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**Authors’ contributions**

All authors worked collectively to develop the protocols and methods described in this paper. YI, SM, KN, NO were the principal investigators responsible for the fieldwork in the Wakayama Spine Study. GN performed the statistical analysis. YI, CC and KWB contributed to the analysis and interpretation of results. YI wrote the report. All authors read and approved the final report. They agreed to be accountable for all aspects of this paper.

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**Disclosure**

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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None