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Research area: Orthopedic Surgery

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A group of class of 2025 medical students (Hooda, Doucet and Ojukwu) at Texas A&M University School of Medicine are conducting writing a systematic review on musculoskeletal injuries under the mentorship of Todd Siff, MD⁴ and Dr. Joshua D. Harris, MD⁴ orthopedic hand surgeons at Houston Methodist. String musicians are often prone to numerous injuries due to their prolonged hours of play, restrictive postures, mental stress of performing well, and many more factors. These factors often lead to various injuries that affect the musculoskeletal and nervous systems. Therefore, in writing this systematic review, our goal is to emphasize the different types of injuries that string musicians are prone to in their playing career. Specifically, we aim to provide pertinent information that can be useful in diagnosis, treatment, prevention, and further clinical trials as they pertain to musicians (both amateur and professional). Our methodology involves pulling articles from several databases like Cochrane, Medline, and LILACS, and applying a set of eligibility criteria to them to obtain the highest quality set of primary data published on the subject matter. A couple of key search terms includes stringed musicians and musculoskeletal injuries. Both terms are broad in that they encompass all patient populations and skill levels as well as any injuries that might be sustained in the upper extremity. We anticipate that there will not only be a set of common injuries found, but also unique injuries that pertain to specific instruments.