

**Daniel Lindahl and Karan Hooda****Campus:** Houston Methodist Hospital – Willowbrook, TX**Research Area:** Musculoskeletal Injuries in Professional Piano Players**Mentor:** Todd Siff, M.D.

Daniel Lindahl and Karan Hooda are members of the Class of 2025 at Texas A&M School of Medicine. They are conducting research under the mentorship of [Todd Siff, M.D.](#), who is an attending physician in the Orthopedics and Sports Medicine department at Houston Methodist. Their study wants to begin to address how professional piano playing may lead to and / or contribute to the development of primarily to upper extremity musculoskeletal injuries as well as other potentially other areas (cervical spine, lumbar spine) . They will conduct a systematic review process using targeted keyword searches such as (Pian* OR Keyboard) AND (Muscul* OR Muscul* disorder* OR Muscul* injur*) in multiple databases such as Pubmed, Cinahl, and Embase. A comprehensive literature review will provide the authors peer-reviewed articles screened on the basis title / abstract / full-text according to pre-determined inclusion / exclusion criteria. The primary inclusion criteria are paid professional piano players or piano students suffering from acute or chronic musculoskeletal injuries. The exclusion criteria are unpaid / non-professional piano players with complaints of generalized pain in the absence of a diagnosed injury. Professional piano playing is extremely demanding both physically and mentally because it typically entails 4 hours of practice per day. Professional pianists spend decades preparing for concerts and auditions making acute and chronic musculoskeletal injuries prevalent. The primary goal of this MSE study is to help physicians understand the incidence of musculoskeletal injuries and forecast outcomes for professional piano players. Future research may include therapies targeted at prevention and treatment for professional piano players based on the injuries and outcomes identified.