

# Don't get boxed in

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# Don't get boxed in

Pathways to attenuate the spreading of pain-related avoidance behavior

## **PROPOSITIONS**

- 1. Reducing pain to merely a signal of tissue damage has detrimental effects
- 2. Don't get boxed in; excessive pain-related avoidance contributes to chronic pain disability
- 3. A fundamental understanding of how avoidance becomes excessive and how this may be countered can help develop and optimize treatment strategies
- 4. Uncertainty about when movements are followed by pain leads to increased generalization of pain-related avoidance (this thesis)
- 5. Know your movements; poor proprioceptive accuracy is associated with excessive pain-related avoidance (this thesis)
- 6. Induced positive affect buffers against excessive spreading of pain-related avoidance (this thesis)
- 7. Evidence for the diagnostic validity of current avoidance generalization paradigms is lacking (this thesis)
- 8. "Science is built up of facts, as a house is built of stones; but an accumulation of facts is no more a science than a heap of stones is a house", Henri Poincaré