

# **A PROSPECTIVE INVESTIGATION OF THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN ISOMETRIC MUSCLE STRENGTH AND RUNNING RELATED INJURY AMONG NOVICE AND RECREATIONAL RUNNERS.**



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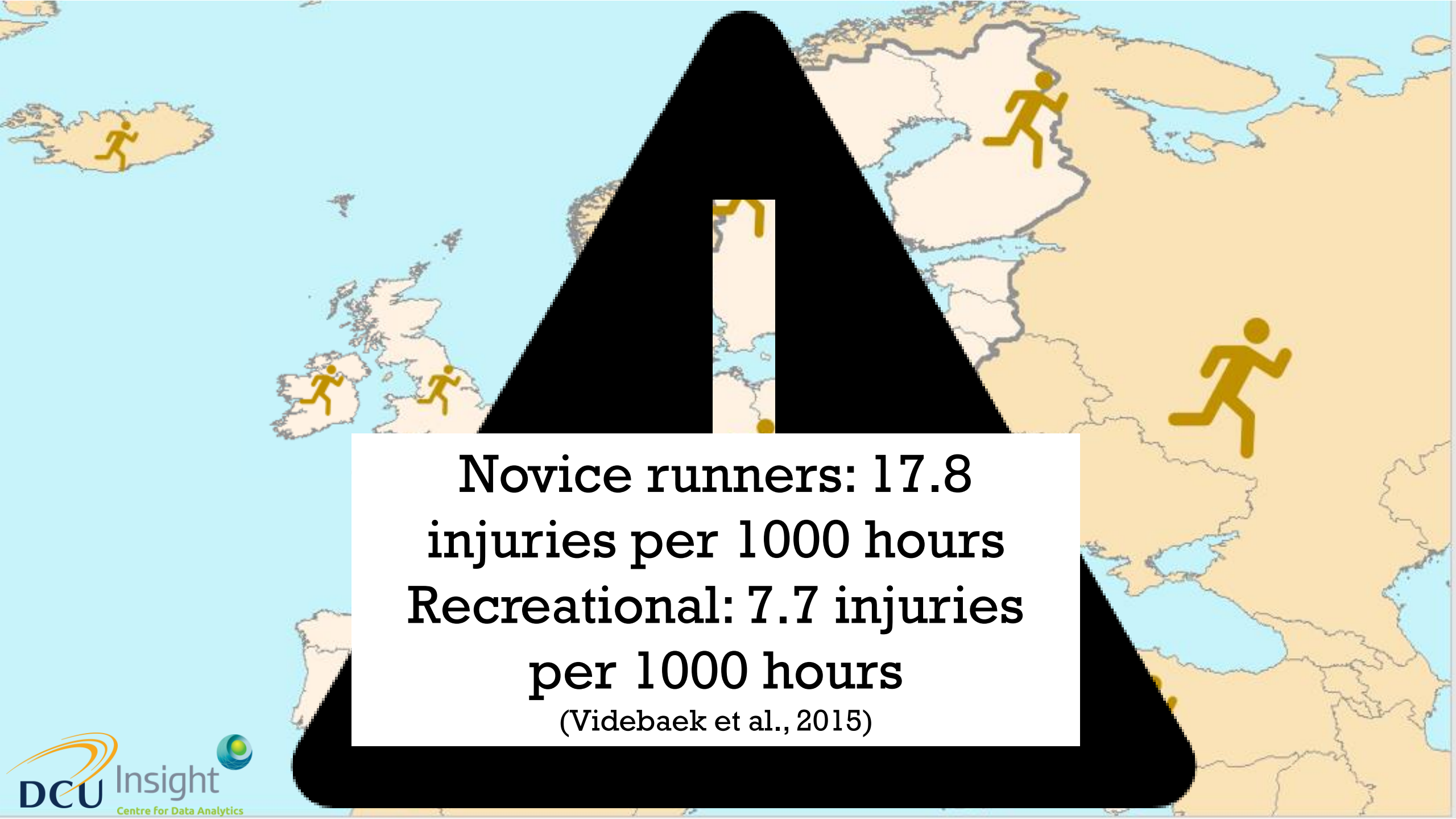
<sup>2</sup> Insight Centre for Data Analytics, Dublin City University, Ireland.

A map of Europe with several yellow running stick figures placed on various countries, including Ireland, the United Kingdom, France, Spain, and Italy. The map is light blue for water and light orange for land.

**7.9 million people  
participate in  
running events**

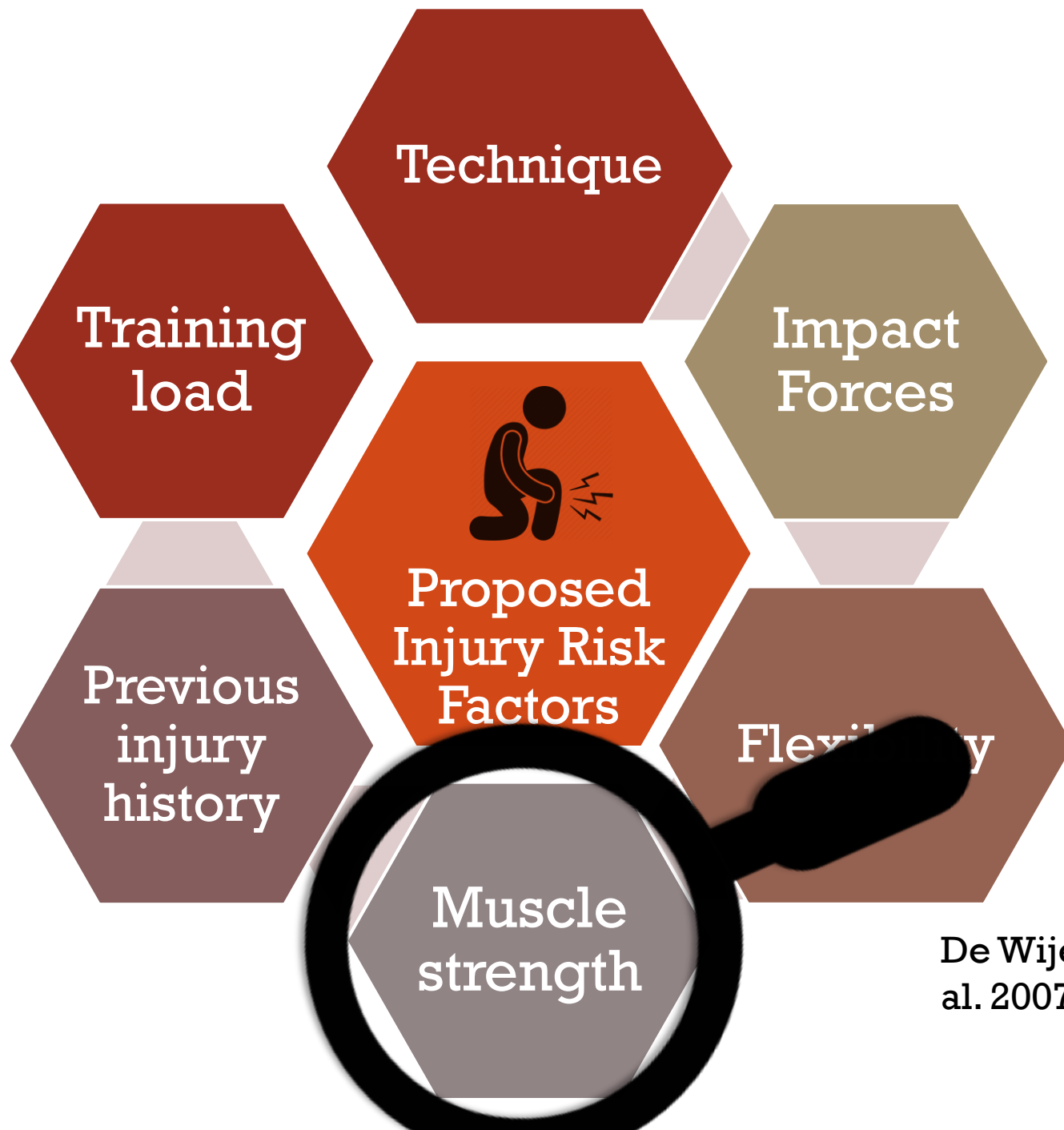
**3<sup>rd</sup> most  
popular form  
of exercise**

**(Irish Sports Council, 2017)**



**Novice runners: 17.8  
injuries per 1000 hours  
Recreational: 7.7 injuries  
per 1000 hours**

(Videbaek et al., 2015)



De Wijer et al. 2015, Van Gent et al. 2007, Ceyssens et al., 2019.

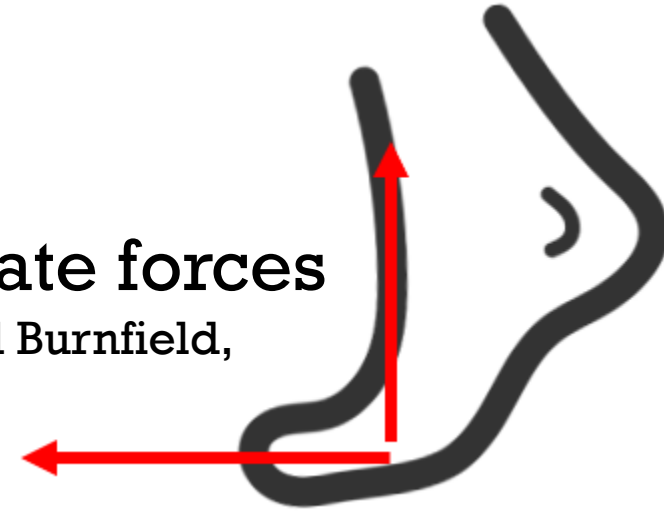


# WHY STUDY MUSCLE STRENGTH?

## Role of Muscles

Mediate  
movement  
(Coventry *et al.*, 2006)

Attenuate forces  
(Perry and Burnfield,  
1992)



# WHY STUDY MUSCLE STRENGTH?

Association  
between muscle  
strength and  
injury

Decreased  
muscle strength  
in injured cohorts

(Noehren et al., 2014; Frericson et al., 2000; Niemuth et al, 2005)

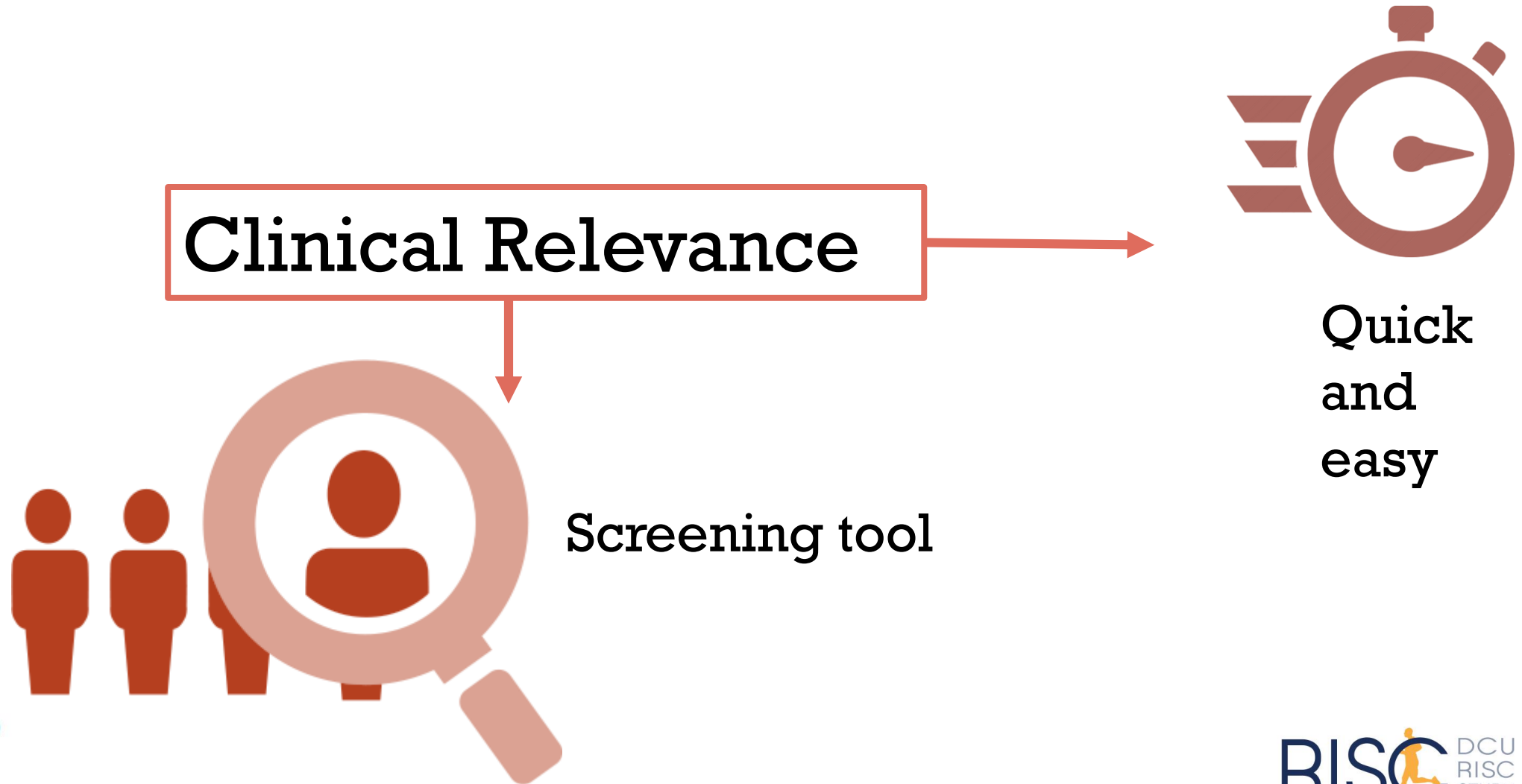


Relationship between  
biomechanics and muscle strength

(Dierks *et al.*, 2008; Loudon and Reiman, 2012; Ferber et al. 2011)



# WHY STUDY MUSCLE STRENGTH?





**Can muscle  
strength  
predict  
running  
related injury?**





Recruitment

n=176

110 males, 66 females

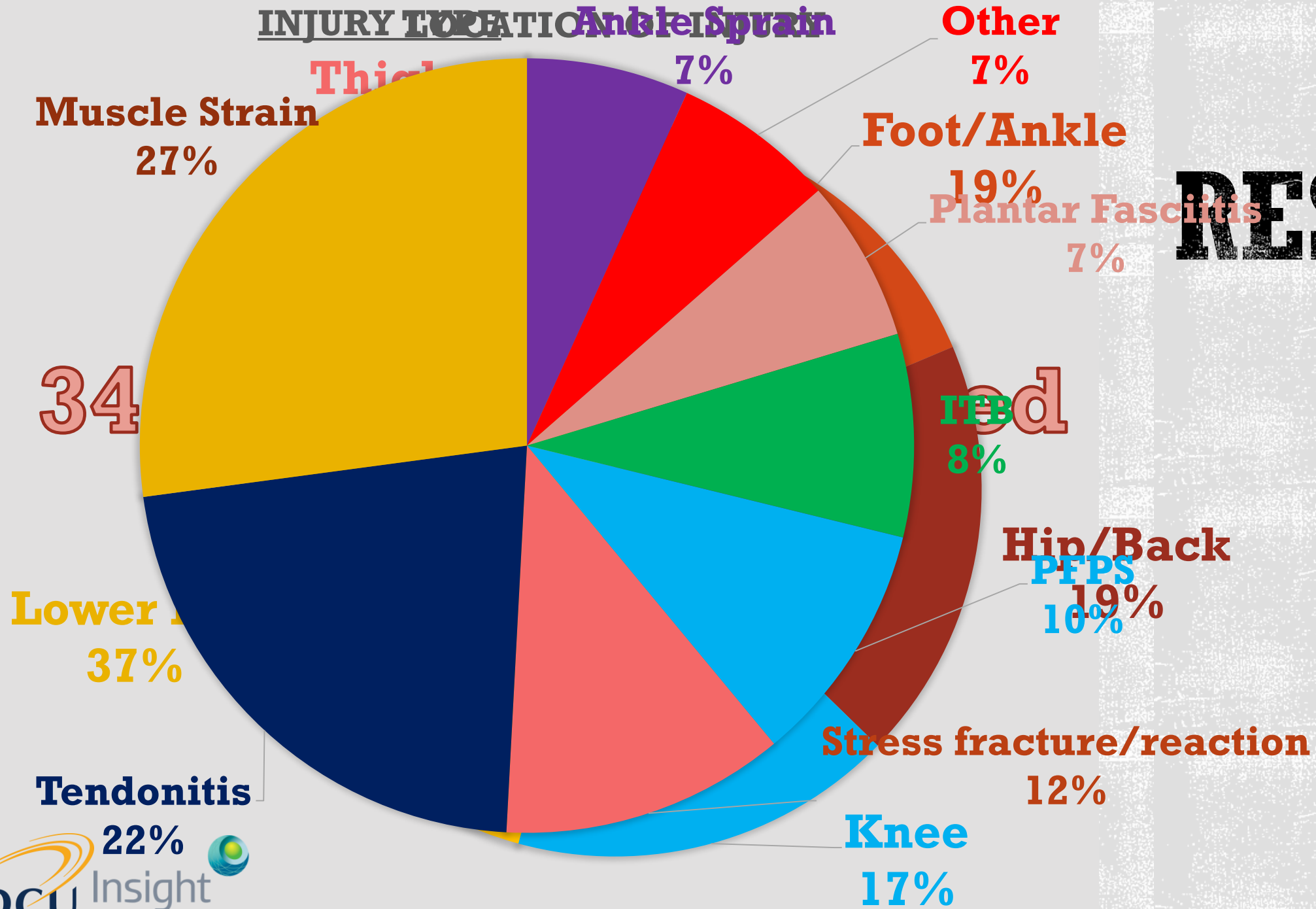
42±5 years

# Methods

## Isometric Muscle Testing



# RESULTS





# RESULTS

- Stepwise backwards regression.
- Statistically significant model generated to predict injury including **hip extension strength and age**
- $p=.023$ ,  $r^2=.047$ ,  $0.50$  cases classified correctly-
- High sens
- Low speci



# RESULTS

- Null model predicted 66.1% of cases correctly.

Manual muscle strength was not able to accurately predict injury



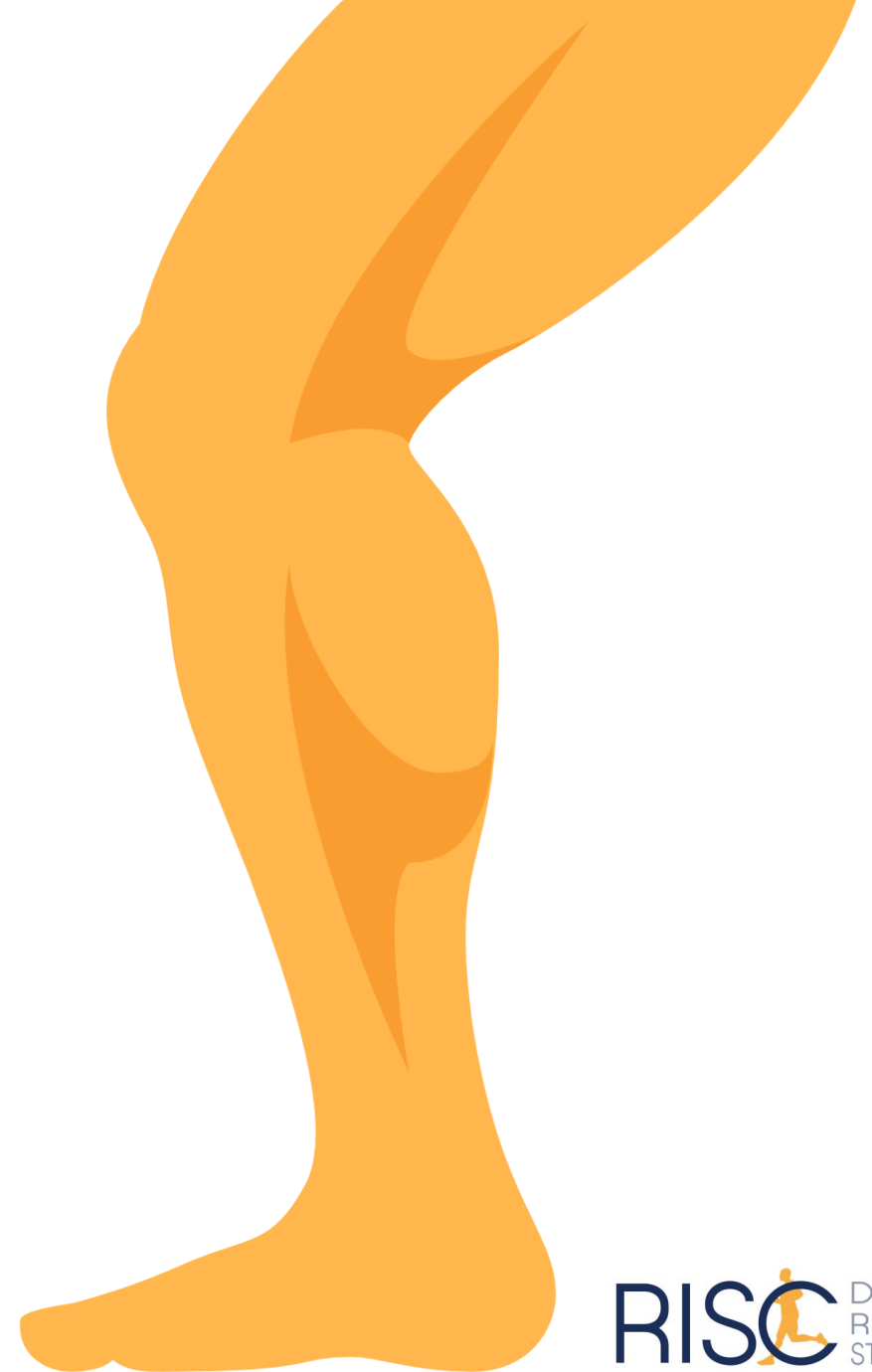
# DISCUSSION

- In agreement with similar research.

(Thijs *et al.*, 2011; Yagi, Muneta and Sekiya, 2013; Torp *et al.*, 2018).

## Strength measures:

- May not reflect the ability to effectively implement an injury-resistant running technique .
- May not reflect tissue strength.





# TAKE HOME MESSAGES

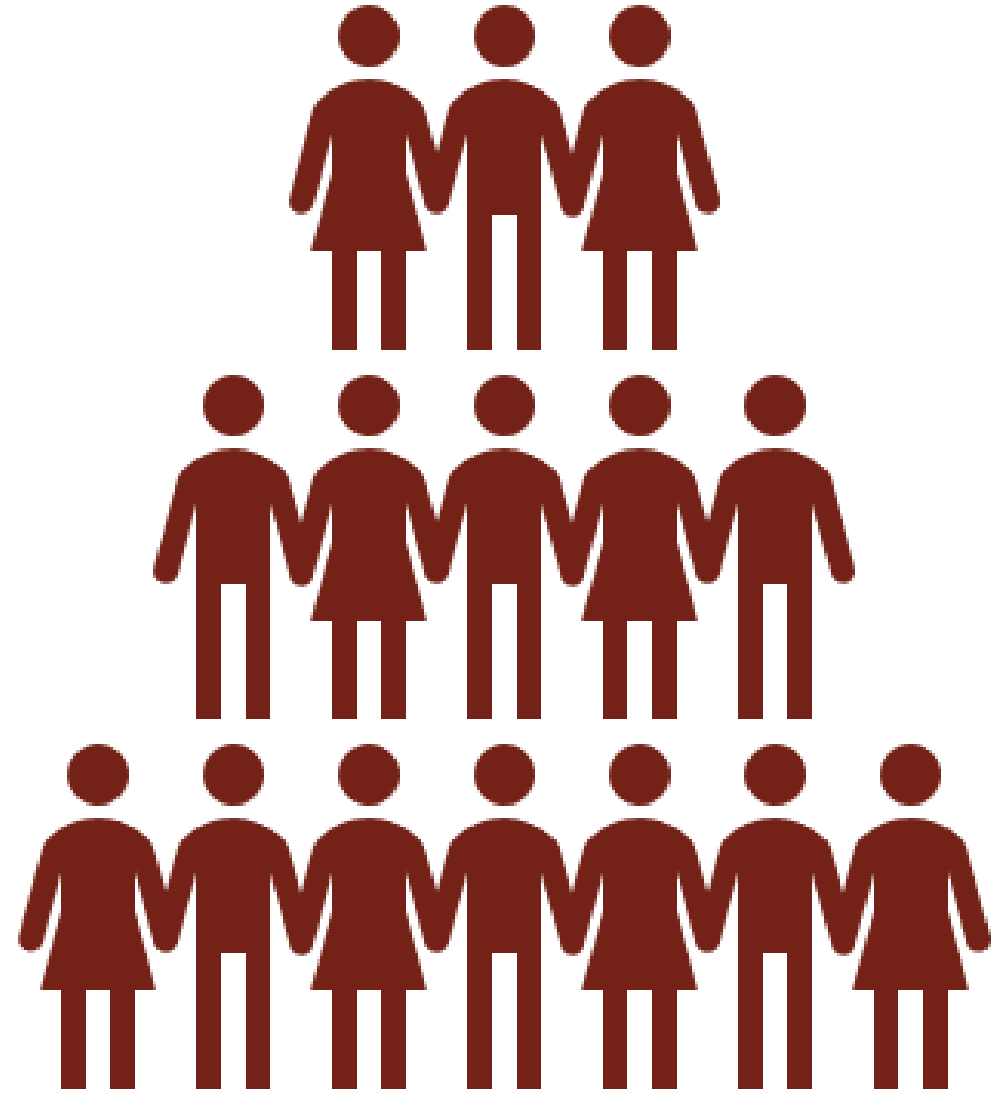
**High prevalence of lower limb injury among runners.**

**Manual muscle strength may not predict future running injury.**

**Future directions: consideration of muscle strength in conjunction with measures of loading.**

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- With thanks to:
- Ms Aoife Burke
- Dr Kieran Moran
- Dr Enda Whyte
- Dr Siobhán O'Connor
- Dr Shane Gore
- Dublin City University
- Insight Centre for Data Analytics
- RISC Participants



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