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**Investigation of the changes in kinesiophobia during the period of return to sport after sport related injuries in physically contact and non-contact sports**Celil Kacoglu<sup>1</sup>, Erdem Atalay<sup>2</sup> and Begumhan Turhan<sup>3</sup><sup>1</sup>Anadolu University, Turkey<sup>2</sup>Yunus Emre State Hospital, Turkey<sup>3</sup>Hasan Kalyoncu University, Turkey

**Objective:** The purpose of this study is to compare some factors affecting kinesiophobia in the process of return to sport after sport related injuries by determining sports injury evaluations of male athletes who are diagnosed as sport related injuries in physically contact and noncontact sports also determining kinesiophobia levels.

**Materials & Methods:** 130 male athletes (age 24.0±6.0 year) from 14 different sports, at least 6-months after the injuries were included in the study. Participants were assessed with Tampa Kinesiophobia Scale.

**Results:** The mean kinesiophobia scores of athletes in physical contact sports were 36.40±7.41 and non-contact sports were 36.75±7.72. There were no differences between total kinesiophobia scores of both groups (p=0.795). Significant differences were found when the kinesiophobia scores were compared for the duration of return to physical activity (p=0.019). Kinesiophobia scores in athletes those cannot return to physical activities for 2-years or longer were significantly different (p<0.05). Kinesiophobia scores of the athletes who injured more than 2-years before were significantly higher than the athletes who injured 6-12 months and 1-2 years before the (p=0.031).

**Conclusion:** Kinesiophobia is increased in individuals with longer duration of return to sport. There was no relationship between kinesiophobia and sports by contact.

ckacoglu@anadolu.edu.tr