**Screening**

198 patients evaluated

**50 patients excluded**

- nerve root compromise (n = 17)

- decompensated heart disease (n= 6)

- withdrawal prior to the start of the study (n = 5)

- age above 60 years (n = 3)

- vertebral fracture (n = 3)

- previous surgery to the lumbar spine (n = 2)

- knee surgery scheduled (n = 2)

- no telephone number for follow-up (n = 2)

- lower-limb tumor (n = 1)

- acute low back pain (n = 1)

- pain in the thoracic spine (n = 1)

- multiple myeloma in the spine (n = 1)

- chemotherapy (n = 1)

- others reasons (n = 5)

**148 patients included**

Patients classified by the STarT Back

**Baseline**

31 low risk

**Baseline**

52 medium risk

**Baseline**

65 high risk

**5 weeks**

31 re-assessments

**5 weeks**

52 re-assessments

**3 months**

31 re-assessments

**3 months**

51 re-assessments

**6 months**

30 re-assessments

**6 months**

51 re-assessments

**5 weeks**

65 re-assessments

**3 months**

64 re-assessments

**6 months**

64 re-assessments

**Supplemental online material 1.** Flow diagram of the study.