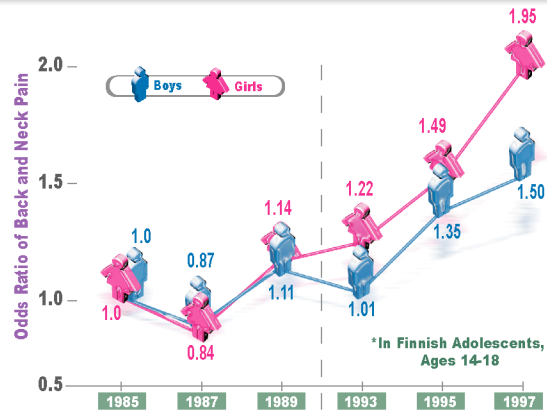


Adolescent Musculoskeletal Pain on the Rise

A long-term survey of 62,677 adolescents in Finland gathered data on the prevalence of back and neck pain (1985-2001). Pain “at least weekly” was the primary outcome measure.



The authors note that new information technology, leading to increased computer use involving repetitive movements and static postures, may be a possible culprit. It may be prudent to inform patients of the potential link between adolescent musculoskeletal pain and prolonged computer use.

SOURCE: Hakala P, Rimpelä A, et al. Back, neck, and shoulder pain in Finnish adolescents: national cross sectional surveys. *British Medical Journal* 2002;325, pp743-46.