

Title: The application of the 24-hour movement paradigm in people diagnosed with cancer: A scoping review

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28 **ABSTRACT**

29 **Background:** The 24-hour movement (physical activity – sedentary behavior – sleep) paradigm
 30 can promote an ability-focused approach to changing movement behaviours in people diagnosed
 31 with cancer. This scoping review aimed to explore how the 24-hour movement paradigm has been
 32 applied in people diagnosed with cancer, examining behaviour measurement methods and
 33 associations between 24-hour movement behaviours and health variables.

34 **Methods:** A systematic search was conducted on the 8th August 2024. Medline, Embase, and
 35 CINAHL were searched. There were five steps: identifying the research question; identifying
 36 studies; study selection; charting the data; collating, summarising and reporting results. Study
 37 design, sample demographics, movement behaviour measurement, analytical approach, and
 38 study outcomes were extracted. The review was conducted according to the PRISMA-Scr
 39 framework.

40 **Results:** Of 88 records identified, seven studies met inclusion criteria. All studies were
 41 cross-sectional with movement behaviours as the exposures. One study was conducted in
 42 children. Four studies used device-based measures for all behaviours, two used device-based
 43 measures of daytime behaviours with self-reported sleep, and one study used self-report for all
 44 behaviours. All studies used isotemporal substitution modelling. One study applied a
 45 compositional data approach. Outcomes included anthropometrics, quality of life, cognitive
 46 function, and bone health. Reallocating time into moderate-to-vigorous physical activity was
 47 associated with the most consistent health benefits.

48 **Conclusions:** Limited studies have applied the 24-hour movement paradigm in this population.
 49 Most used devices for measurement. While current evidence is constrained by cross-sectional

designs and limited generalisability, results support the positive impact of reallocating time from other behaviours into physical activity.

INTRODUCTION

Cancer is a major contributor to the global disease burden¹. Earlier detection and improved treatments and survival rates mean a large population of people are living with and beyond cancer². A substantial body of trial evidence demonstrates multiple benefits for physical activity (PA) after a cancer diagnosis³⁻⁶. This includes evidence for improved patient-oriented endpoints such as improved fatigue and quality of life⁶⁻⁸ as well as health-related endpoints including cancer survival^{9,10}. Accordingly, the American College of Sports Medicine recommends that people diagnosed with cancer engage in 150-300 minutes per week of moderate intensity PA or 75 to 150 minutes per week of vigorous intensity PA to improve outcomes after diagnosis³.

Despite these recommendations, many people diagnosed with cancer do not meet the recommended amounts of moderate-to-vigorous intensity PA (MVPA) per week and this group demonstrates consistently lower levels of physical activity compared to adults without cancer¹¹. A systematic review of physical activity levels in people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy demonstrated that most people diagnosed with cancer do not achieve the recommended amounts of MVPA, with or without intervention¹² and adherence is as low as 7.5% in people diagnosed with colorectal cancer¹³. Accelerometer-derived MVPA across the included studies was low, ranging from 7 minutes to 22 minutes of MVPA per day¹². A 2023 study using a nationally representative sample of people diagnosed with cancer in the United States reported that the prevalence of meeting the aerobic PA recommendations is 40%, although this varied across cancer types such as skin cancer (51%) and stomach cancer (27%)¹⁴. Similar prevalence estimates have also been documented in the United Kingdom¹⁵.

73 There is substantial evidence indicating that engaging in PA of moderate-to-vigorous intensity
 74 has the greatest benefit to health¹⁶⁻¹⁸. However, Sabiston et al. and Lynch et al. reported that
 75 MVPA accounts for <2% of waking hours in their respective studies of people diagnosed with
 76 breast cancer^{19,20}. Regular participation in structured leisure-time PA can be unappealing due to
 77 many reasons. This includes some barriers that are commonly identified in the general population
 78 such as logistical demands, low mood, low self-efficacy, and preference for other activities^{21,22}.
 79 Specifically in people diagnosed with cancer, barriers such as disease related side effects (e.g.,
 80 fatigue), the presence of comorbidities, and the logistical demands of attending appointments
 81 and cancer care are consistently reported^{22,23}. Therefore, it is useful to look beyond structured
 82 exercise to instead consider the distribution of PA across the day, including behaviours such as
 83 vigorous intermittent lifestyle physical activity (VILPA²⁴) and behaviours that constitute much
 84 larger proportions of the 24-hour day such as LPA and SB¹⁷.

85 The 24-hour movement paradigm acknowledges that each day is made up of time spent across
 86 sleep, SB, and PA of different intensities^{25,26}, recognising that these behaviours are
 87 interdependent and any increase in time spent in one must result in a reduction in time spent in
 88 another²⁷. Rather than focusing on a single behaviour in isolation, increasing evidence suggests
 89 that the overall composition of the day is critical for health outcomes^{28,29}. Accordingly, recent
 90 studies have examined the effects of making small incremental changes across all movement
 91 behaviours on health outcomes such as cardiovascular disease and blood pressure^{30,31}. This
 92 reflects the increasing recognition that improving all behaviours simultaneously and achieving an
 93 overall healthier movement composition can have a synergistic effect on health^{29,32}. This has
 94 contributed to the publication of new 24-hour activity guidelines for the general population in
 95 countries such as Canada²⁵.

96 Despite uptake in general population research, the 24-hour movement approach has rarely been
 97 applied to people diagnosed with cancer. Therefore, its potential to take an ability-focused
 98 perspective on physical activity- one that accounts for individuals' physical capabilities and
 99 limitations within the cancer care context- remains underexplored³³. In an international review of
 100 98 studies exploring PA intervention preferences of people diagnosed with cancer at different
 101 sites and at all stages of treatment, the importance of having achievable forms of PA was
 102 highlighted, recognising that high intensity PA can be daunting and challenging to perform after
 103 diagnosis²³. Emphasising the benefits of small changes across other movement behaviours such
 104 as LPA and standing time, and breaking up SB may seem more achievable to people with reduced
 105 physical capacity and/or are experiencing fatigue resulting from their diagnosis and treatment³⁴.
 106 The aim of this scoping review is to synthesise and describe the available evidence on how the
 107 24-hour movement paradigm has been applied in people diagnosed with cancer. The objectives
 108 are: 1) to examine how 24-hour movement behaviours are simultaneously measured and
 109 analysed within an integrated framework in people diagnosed with cancer, and 2) to explore
 110 associations between these integrated 24-hour movement behaviours and other health variables
 111 in people diagnosed with cancer.

112 METHOD

113 The protocol for this scoping review was developed using Lely et al.'s template for scoping
 114 reviews³⁵. The protocol was registered prospectively with the Open Science Framework on 22
 115 February 2024 (<https://osf.io/j25ge/>). The methodology was guided by the Joanna Briggs
 116 Institute's (JBI) guidance for conducting scoping reviews and Arksey and O'Malley's
 117 framework³⁶⁻³⁸. See Supplementary Materials for a completed PRISMA-Scr Checklist³⁹.
 118 Conducting the review included five steps; 1) identifying the research question; 2) identifying

119 relevant studies; 3) study selection; 4) charting the data; and 5) collating, summarising, and
120 reporting the results.

121 **Identifying the research question**

122 Prior to beginning the scoping review, preliminary searches of electronic databases were
123 conducted in November 2023 to explore existing literature and guide the development of the
124 research question. Due to the limited evidence available and heterogeneity of outcomes, a
125 scoping review was deemed appropriate to map existing research, assess methodological
126 approaches, identify knowledge gaps, and inform future research^{40,41}.

127 **Identifying relevant studies**

128 The lead researcher (S.L.S.) formulated the search strategy with input from an information
129 specialist librarian at University College London (D.M.). Subject headings and keywords were
130 piloted to ensure a comprehensive search and that relevant known studies were identified. Search
131 strategies of previous literature reviews about the measurement of movement behaviours were
132 collated and refined to align with the research question^{42,43}.

133 The databases Medline, Embase and Cumulative Index of Nursing and Allied Health Literature
134 (CINAHL) were searched on 8th August 2024. The search strategy was modified from the
135 registered protocol - the requirement of terms for device-based measures was removed to ensure
136 that studies that only used self-report but applied the 24-hour movement paradigm would be
137 included. Terms for PA, SB, and sleep were combined with the 'AND' Boolean operator to ensure
138 that studies included a measure of each type of behaviour necessary for 24-hour movement
139 examination. The full search strategies for the Medline, Embase, and CINAHL databases are
140 available in the Supplementary Materials. The identified records from each database were

downloaded into Endnote (version 20⁴⁴). Endnote was used for deduplication before exporting into Microsoft Excel⁴⁵.

Reference lists from review papers and included studies were also searched³³. Conference abstracts were excluded from this review due to insufficient information on the required methodology. No search for conference abstracts in the grey literature was conducted on conference websites. A grey literature search was conducted in Google Search using the terms from the search strategy as well as searching open access theses repository websites. (e.g., EBSCO Open Dissertations⁴⁶).

Study selection

The study selection process was implemented over two stages. Two reviewers (S.L.S. and L.B.) screened titles and abstracts of the records identified from the searches according to the inclusion criteria outlined below (stage 1). Any disagreements were resolved by discussion and consensus. Where there was uncertainty, records were brought to the full text screening stage where the same inclusion criteria were applied (stage 2).

Inclusion criteria

Person

Included studies must have involved humans who had received a clinical diagnosis of cancer. No distinction was made between those who had completed treatment or those who were still receiving treatment. No restrictions on age, cancer type or any other demographic or clinical characteristics were imposed.

Concept

162 Included studies must have measured PA, SB, and sleep using self-report or device-based
 163 measures. The registered protocol originally stated that a compositional approach to data
 164 analysis must have been used. Compositional data analysis is widely used in studies in the
 165 general population and accounts for the fact that movement behaviours are codependent (i.e.
 166 time spent in one behavioural necessarily displaces time spent in another)¹⁶. Converting data into
 167 compositional data (usually achieved using isometric log ratios^{16,47}) enables researchers to
 168 perform modelling such as isotemporal substitution within the constraints of a 24-hour day. For
 169 example, researchers can examine the proportion of time spent in SB *relative* to the total 24-hour
 170 day. This overcomes the limitations of traditional models, which cannot adjust for all remaining
 171 movement behaviours due to multicollinearity⁴⁷. However, using compositional data analysis
 172 with this population was very limited, so the search strategy was modified to also include studies
 173 that analysed 24-hour movement using isotemporal substitution without compositional
 174 constraints. Isotemporal substitution involves the hypothetical replacement of one type of
 175 activity or behaviour with another of equal duration while keeping the overall time constant⁴⁸. For
 176 example, researchers can model the impact of reallocating 30 minutes from MVPA into SB on a
 177 marker of health.

178 *Context*

179 Studies conducted in any setting were eligible for inclusion.

180 *Exclusion criteria*

181 Studies in non-human subjects were excluded. Studies in languages other than English were also
 182 excluded if there was no English translation available. Conference abstracts were excluded.
 183 Where multiple sources reported on the same data (e.g., a thesis and published articles), only the
 184 peer-reviewed publications were included.

251 as the use of device-based measures^{52-56,58}, validated outcome tools^{53,56-58}, and appropriate
252 analytical approaches⁵²⁻⁵⁸. However, reporting on cancer-specific validity of measures was
253 limited. In the analyses, the issue of residual confounding is likely as studies did not account for
254 key factors such as comorbidities^{52-54,58} and socioeconomic position^{52,53,58}. The generalisability
255 of studies was limited due to small sample sizes, evidence of selection biases, and samples
256 comprising better functioning, health-conscious participants⁵²⁻⁵⁸. Despite methodological
257 limitations, studies were rated as valuable due to their exploratory nature and highlighting of areas
258 for future research.

259 **Measurement of behaviours**

260 Table 3 presents how movement behaviours were measured and defined across studies.

261 *Device-based measures*

262 SB and PA of different intensities were measured using devices in six studies^{52-56,58}. Sleep was
263 measured using devices in four studies^{52-54,58}.

264 *Wear protocols*

265 Table 4 presents the wear protocols for the devices used across studies. Only one study included
266 cancer-specific wear instructions advising women diagnosed with lymphedema or experiencing
267 discomfort on their non-dominant side to wear the device on their dominant wrist while sleeping⁵⁴.

268 *Self-report measures*

269 One study used self-reported measures of SB and PA of different intensities⁵⁷. Three studies used
270 self-report measures for sleep⁵⁵⁻⁵⁷.

271 **Outcomes examined**

272 Outcomes across studies and their measures are presented in Table 1. Three studies examined
273 movement behaviours in relation to quality of life^{53,56,57}. Specifically, Vallance et al. examined
274 health-related quality of life and fatigue in people diagnosed with Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma⁵⁶.
275 Body mass index (BMI) was explored as an outcome in two studies^{52,55}. Cognitive function was
276 explored as an outcome in one study⁵⁴. Waist circumference was explored in another study⁵⁵.
277 Bone health was explored as an outcome in children diagnosed with cancer⁵⁸.

278 **Analyses conducted**

279 *Statistical significance*

