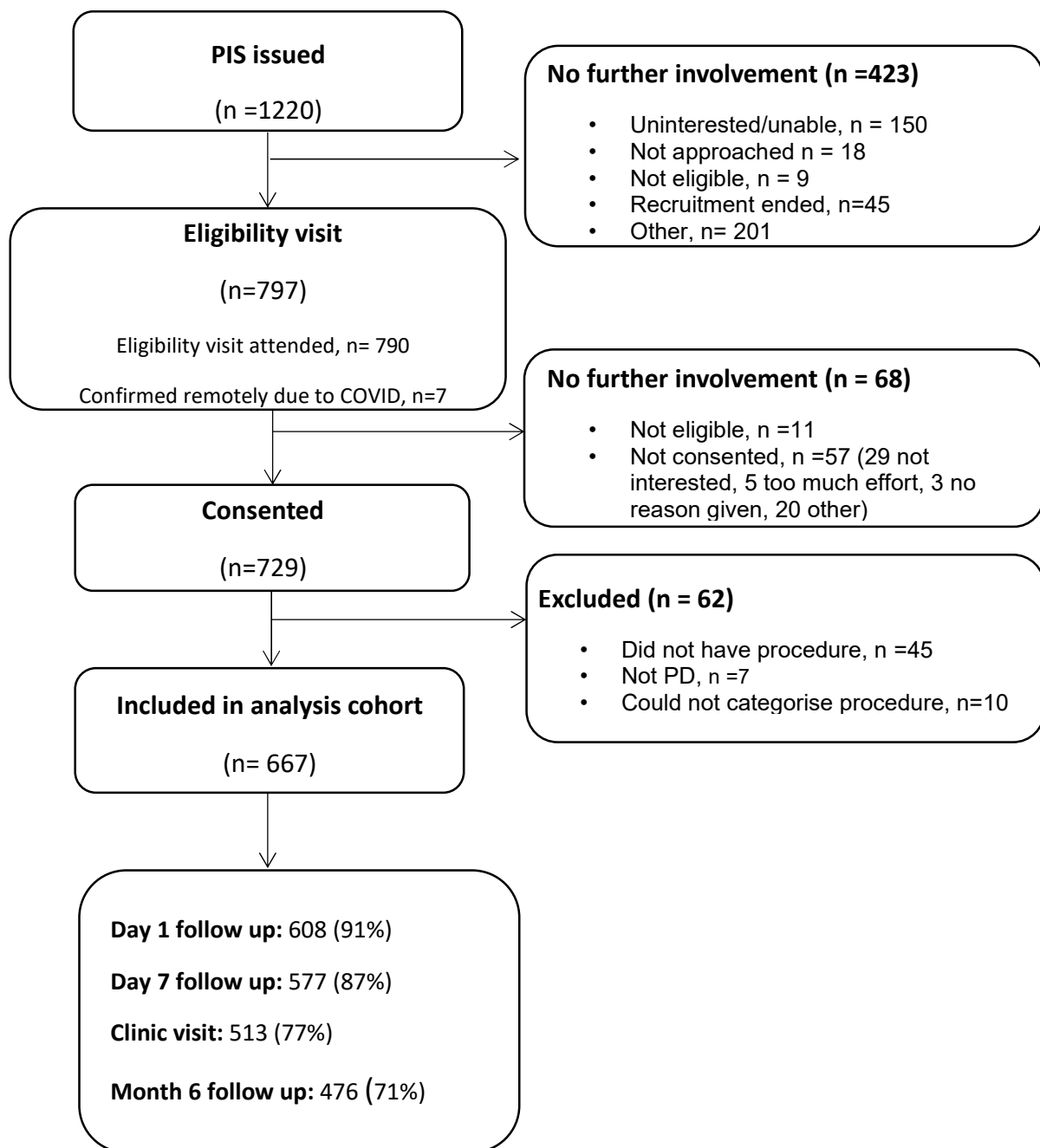


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Figure 1: Participant Flow For the PITSTOP Study



Baseline characteristics

Table 1: Participant characteristics

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Age					
N (%)	272 (100%)	49 (100%)	76 (100%)	270 (100%)	667 (100%)
Mean (SD)	28.5 (9.0)	28.1 (10.9)	28.1 (7.7)	29.7 (9.9)	28.9 (9.4)
Median (IQR)	27.0 (22.0, 32.0)	25.0 (20.0, 33.0)	27.5 (22.5, 31.5)	28.0 (23.0, 34.0)	27.0 (22.0, 33.0)
Min., Max.	16.0, 73.0	16.0, 64.0	18.0, 58.0	16.0, 69.0	16.0, 73.0
Body mass index (kg/m2)					
N (%)	253 (93%)	47 (96%)	71 (93%)	241 (89%)	612 (92%)
Mean (SD)	29.5 (5.5)	28.9 (6.9)	28.9 (5.0)	28.7 (6.1)	29.1 (5.8)
Median (IQR)	28.8 (25.5, 32.8)	28.1 (23.0, 32.7)	28.0 (25.1, 32.7)	27.8 (24.2, 32.1)	28.3 (24.9, 32.7)
Min., Max.	17.6, 59.5	17.7, 49.2	17.0, 39.7	13.1, 47.6	13.1, 59.5
Number of baths and/or showers in a typical week					
N (%)	260 (96%)	49 (100%)	74 (97%)	261 (97%)	644 (97%)
Mean (SD)	6.9 (2.9)	7.8 (3.8)	7.6 (2.7)	6.8 (2.4)	7.0 (2.8)
Median (IQR)	7.0 (5.5, 7.0)	7.0 (7.0, 7.0)	7.0 (7.0, 7.0)	7.0 (6.0, 7.0)	7.0 (6.0, 7.0)
Min., Max.	1.0, 27.0	4.0, 21.0	3.0, 14.0	1.0, 14.0	1.0, 27.0
Sex					
Male	183 (67%)	36 (73%)	60 (79%)	206 (76%)	485 (73%)
Female	89 (33%)	13 (27%)	16 (21%)	64 (24%)	182 (27%)
Ethnicity					
White	228 (84%)	41 (84%)	72 (95%)	229 (85%)	570 (85%)
Asian / Asian British	23 (8%)	4 (8%)	4 (5%)	27 (10%)	58 (9%)
Mixed / multiple ethnic groups	9 (3%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	13 (2%)
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	3 (1%)	2 (4%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	8 (1%)
Other ethnic group	4 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	7 (1%)
Prefer not to say	3 (1%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	5 (1%)

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Seated for more than 6 hours in a working day	142 (52%)	19 (39%)	36 (47%)	135 (50%)	332 (50%)
Smoking status					
Non smoker	148 (54%)	31 (63%)	43 (57%)	152 (56%)	374 (56%)
Current smoker	86 (32%)	13 (27%)	26 (34%)	71 (26%)	196 (29%)
Current e-cigarette smoker	13 (5%)	0 (0%)	4 (5%)	20 (7%)	37 (6%)
Employment status					
Employed	198 (73%)	35 (71%)	64 (84%)	201 (74%)	498 (75%)
A house-partner or full time parent / carer	4 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	7 (3%)	11 (2%)
Volunteer or between jobs	12 (4%)	1 (2%)	1 (1%)	9 (3%)	23 (3%)
Student or trainee	36 (13%)	8 (16%)	9 (12%)	33 (12%)	86 (13%)
Retired	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	4 (1%)
Unemployed/not working	18 (7%)	4 (8%)	2 (3%)	13 (5%)	37 (6%)
Other	3 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	6 (1%)
Hair type					
0 Bald	5 (2%)	4 (8%)	2 (3%)	7 (3%)	18 (3%)
1a Straight (Fine/Thin)	57 (21%)	9 (18%)	20 (26%)	71 (26%)	157 (24%)
1b Straight (Medium)	104 (38%)	12 (24%)	30 (39%)	87 (32%)	233 (35%)
1c Straight (Coarse)	8 (3%)	2 (4%)	4 (5%)	14 (5%)	28 (4%)
2a Wavy (Fine/Thin)	24 (9%)	4 (8%)	4 (5%)	14 (5%)	46 (7%)
2b Wavy (Medium)	31 (11%)	2 (4%)	10 (13%)	42 (16%)	85 (13%)
2c Wavy (Coarse)	11 (4%)	8 (16%)	4 (5%)	17 (6%)	40 (6%)
3a Curly (Loose)	20 (7%)	5 (10%)	1 (1%)	11 (4%)	37 (6%)
3b Curly (Tight)	7 (3%)	2 (4%)	0 (0%)	3 (1%)	12 (2%)
4a Kinky (soft)	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)	2 (1%)	5 (1%)
4b Kinky (Wiry)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)
4c Kinky (Wiry)	2 (1%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (0%)
Hair cut frequency					
More than once every 4 weeks	80 (29%)	14 (29%)	20 (26%)	84 (31%)	198 (30%)

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Once every 4 - 8 weeks	98 (36%)	20 (41%)	33 (43%)	109 (40%)	260 (39%)
Less than once every 8 weeks	94 (35%)	15 (31%)	23 (30%)	76 (28%)	208 (31%)

Table 2: Participant Disease Characteristics

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Natal cleft depth (mm)					
N (%)	253 (93%)	40 (82%)	53 (70%)	236 (87%)	582 (87%)
Mean (SD)	19.1 (11.8)	23.6 (18.4)	20.8 (13.1)	19.9 (11.8)	19.9 (12.5)
Median (IQR)	16.0 (10.0, 25.0)	18.5 (10.0, 33.5)	20.0 (10.0, 30.0)	20.0 (11.0, 25.0)	19.0 (10.0, 25.0)
Min., Max.	0.0, 80.0	5.0, 100.0	2.0, 63.0	0.0, 110.0	0.0, 110.0
Number of pits					
N (%)	267 (98%)	47 (96%)	62 (82%)	264 (98%)	640 (96%)
Mean (SD)	2.6 (2.0)	1.7 (1.2)	2.3 (2.6)	2.4 (1.7)	2.4 (1.9)
Median (IQR)	2.0 (1.0, 3.0)	1.0 (1.0, 2.0)	2.0 (1.0, 3.0)	2.0 (1.0, 3.0)	2.0 (1.0, 3.0)
Min., Max.	0.0, 16.0	0.0, 6.0	0.0, 20.0	0.0, 17.0	0.0, 20.0
Length of pits (spread, mm)					
N (%)	176 (65%)	17 (35%)	34 (45%)	179 (66%)	406 (61%)
Mean (SD)	36.2 (37.1)	44.9 (36.9)	25.5 (20.3)	26.2 (21.9)	31.3 (30.4)
Median (IQR)	30.0 (10.0, 50.0)	30.0 (21.0, 70.0)	20.0 (10.0, 35.0)	20.0 (10.0, 40.0)	23.0 (10.0, 41.0)
Min., Max.	0.0, 320.0	4.0, 150.0	0.0, 85.0	2.0, 140.0	0.0, 320.0
Pit density (pits per mm)					
N (%)	253 (93%)	42 (86%)	61 (80%)	256 (95%)	612 (92%)
Mean (SD)	0.1 (0.2)	0.0 (0.1)	0.2 (0.5)	0.1 (0.2)	0.1 (0.3)
Median (IQR)	0.1 (0.0, 0.2)	0.0 (0.0, 0.1)	0.0 (0.0, 0.2)	0.1 (0.0, 0.2)	0.1 (0.0, 0.2)
Min., Max.	0.0, 2.0	0.0, 0.5	0.0, 3.0	0.0, 1.5	0.0, 3.0
Number of previous procedures					
0	129 (47%)	21 (43%)	48 (63%)	159 (59%)	357 (54%)
1	73 (27%)	14 (29%)	15 (20%)	72 (27%)	174 (26%)
2	37 (14%)	6 (12%)	9 (12%)	26 (10%)	78 (12%)
3 or more	33 (12%)	8 (16%)	4 (5%)	13 (5%)	58 (9%)
Previous procedures for PSD					
Elective procedure	57 (21%)	14 (29%)	9 (12%)	68 (25%)	148 (22%)
Acute drainage	101 (37%)	19 (39%)	20 (26%)	55 (20%)	195 (29%)

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Emergency procedure	4 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	5 (1%)
Months from last procedure to current procedure					
N (%)	56 (21%)	14 (29%)	9 (12%)	68 (25%)	147 (22%)
Mean (SD)	35.4 (43.3)	28.4 (29.1)	10.3 (8.5)	39.5 (61.3)	35.1 (50.6)
Median (IQR)	20.5 (8.0, 47.0)	17.0 (9.0, 41.0)	11.0 (2.0, 16.0)	16.0 (8.0, 41.0)	17.0 (8.0, 41.0)
Min., Max.	0.0, 207.0	3.0, 100.0	0.0, 22.0	0.0, 329.0	0.0, 329.0
Wysocki classification					
Type 1	46 (17%)	7 (14%)	27 (36%)	102 (38%)	182 (27%)
Type 2	148 (54%)	19 (39%)	41 (54%)	116 (43%)	324 (49%)
Type 3	20 (7%)	8 (16%)	3 (4%)	19 (7%)	50 (7%)
Type 4	54 (20%)	13 (27%)	3 (4%)	31 (11%)	101 (15%)
None of the above	3 (1%)	1 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (1%)
Distribution of lateral openings					
No lateral openings	99 (36.4%)	20 (40.8%)	36 (47.4%)	140 (51.9%)	295 (44.2%)
Unilateral	150 (55.1%)	15 (30.6%)	17 (22.4%)	105 (38.9%)	287 (43.0%)
Bilateral	8 (2.9%)	4 (8.2%)	1 (1.3%)	7 (2.6%)	20 (3.0%)
Gluteal hair					
None	49 (18%)	7 (14%)	10 (13%)	31 (11%)	97 (15%)
Mild	137 (50%)	26 (53%)	32 (42%)	134 (50%)	329 (49%)
Dense	84 (31%)	13 (27%)	23 (30%)	99 (37%)	219 (33%)
Natal cleft skin					
Maceration	39 (14%)	8 (16%)	8 (11%)	23 (9%)	78 (12%)
Erosions	29 (11%)	4 (8%)	4 (5%)	14 (5%)	51 (8%)
Splits	15 (6%)	6 (12%)	8 (11%)	17 (6%)	46 (7%)
Wide pores	52 (19%)	16 (33%)	20 (26%)	53 (20%)	141 (21%)
First degree relatives with history of PSD					
First degree relatives with history of PSD	51 (19%)	9 (18%)	16 (21%)	46 (17%)	122 (18%)
Relative with history of PSD					

Characteristic	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Mother	10 (4%)	1 (2%)	4 (5%)	9 (3%)	24 (4%)
Father	19 (7%)	7 (14%)	6 (8%)	18 (7%)	50 (7%)
Sibling	14 (5%)	1 (2%)	3 (4%)	13 (5%)	31 (5%)
Child	2 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (0%)	3 (0%)
Multiple	6 (2%)	0 (0%)	3 (4%)	5 (2%)	14 (2%)

Main Outcome Measures

As PITSTOP is a cohort study examining current practice, there are no primary outcome measures. The following data was collected:

- Pain (numeric rating scale) on day 1 and day 7 post-operatively and at each follow-up (Table 3 and 4)
- EQ-5D-5L quality of life at each follow-up (Table 4)
- Interactions with primary and secondary care
- Length of time to healing (Table 5)
- Return to normal activities (Table 6)
- Complications (Table 7)
- Recurrence (Table 8)
- Infection (Table 9)

Table 3: Comparison of Pain on day 1 and day 7 between major and minor procedures

Model	Major procedure		Minor procedure			
	n	Mean (SD)	n	Mean (SD)	N	Mean difference (95% CI) ^a
Pain (day 1)						
Raw difference	364	4.22 (2.53)	242	2.60 (2.24)	606	1.62 (1.23, 2.02)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki					601	1.64 (1.24, 2.05)
Risk adjusted – chosen model (sex, smoking, Wysocki)					544	1.56 (1.14, 1.98)
Risk adjusted – full model					404	1.70 (1.20, 2.20)
Propensity adjusted – inverse probability weighting (IPW)					591	1.54 (1.08, 2.00)
Propensity matching					591	1.64 (1.17, 2.10)
Augmented IPW					536	1.58 (1.14, 2.01)
Pain (day 7)						
Raw difference	353	3.44 (2.50)	221	1.86 (2.18)	574	1.58 (1.18, 1.98)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki					569	1.56 (1.15, 1.97)
Risk adjusted – chosen model (lateral distribution, sex, Wysocki)					514	1.45 (1.03, 1.87)
Risk adjusted – full model					382	1.47 (0.98, 1.95)
Propensity adjusted – inverse probability weighting (IPW)					559	1.57 (1.14, 2.00)
Propensity matching					559	1.65 (1.23, 2.07)
Augmented IPW					512	1.53 (1.12, 1.95)

Table 4: Continuous outcomes measured at multiple timepoints

Outcome	Asymmetric closure (n=272)		Leave Open (n=49)		Midline closure (n=76)		Minimal excision (n=270)		All (n=667)	
	n	mean (sd)	n	mean (sd)	n	mean (sd)	n	mean (sd)	n	mean (sd)
Pain (today) ^a										
Baseline	271	1.9 (2.2)	49	2.9 (2.6)	76	1.6 (2.0)	270	1.8 (2.3)	666	1.9 (2.3)
Day 1	253	4.5 (2.4)	43	2.9 (2.6)	68	3.9 (2.8)	242	2.6 (2.2)	606	3.6 (2.5)
Day 7	246	3.3 (2.3)	41	4.1 (2.8)	66	3.7 (2.8)	221	1.9 (2.2)	574	2.8 (2.5)
Clinic visit	218	1.6 (2.1)	34	1.8 (2.4)	51	2.3 (2.5)	198	0.8 (1.7)	501	1.4 (2.1)
6 month visit	202	0.6 (1.5)	34	1.4 (2.2)	54	0.7 (1.9)	180	0.8 (1.6)	470	0.7 (1.6)
Pain (worst in last week) ^a										
Baseline	270	3.6 (3.0)	49	4.5 (3.2)	76	3.4 (3.2)	270	3.3 (3.0)	665	3.5 (3.0)
Day 7	246	5.4 (2.5)	41	5.9 (2.9)	66	5.5 (3.1)	221	3.0 (2.8)	574	4.5 (3.0)
Clinic visit	218	2.7 (2.8)	34	3.0 (2.6)	51	3.4 (2.9)	199	1.5 (2.5)	502	2.3 (2.8)
6 month visit	202	1.0 (2.0)	34	2.2 (2.7)	54	1.1 (2.3)	180	1.4 (2.5)	470	1.3 (2.3)
EQ-5D-5L health utility (crosswalk) ^b										
Baseline	267	0.79 (0.20)	48	0.76 (0.19)	74	0.81 (0.20)	265	0.82 (0.19)	654	0.80 (0.20)
Day 7	246	0.65 (0.21)	41	0.60 (0.22)	66	0.61 (0.27)	219	0.79 (0.20)	572	0.69 (0.23)
Clinic visit	214	0.80 (0.21)	34	0.75 (0.22)	49	0.75 (0.20)	197	0.89 (0.17)	494	0.83 (0.20)
6 month visit	201	0.90 (0.18)	34	0.82 (0.19)	53	0.89 (0.19)	178	0.89 (0.16)	466	0.89 (0.17)
EQ-5D - Your health today ^c										
Baseline	268	76.6 (16.1)	48	74.4 (18.2)	73	76.1 (12.9)	269	77.4 (16.8)	658	76.7 (16.2)
Day 7	247	73.5 (16.1)	41	71.1 (19.6)	64	71.5 (19.4)	220	79.4 (17.7)	572	75.4 (17.6)
Clinic visit	214	78.7 (16.9)	34	81.1 (15.0)	49	80.4 (14.3)	196	85.3 (13.7)	493	81.6 (15.6)
6 month visit	202	81.0 (19.8)	34	79.4 (19.6)	53	82.5 (12.9)	177	84.0 (16.2)	466	82.2 (17.8)
CWIQ QoL ^d										
Clinic visit	216	7.5 (2.1)	34	7.6 (1.7)	48	7.5 (1.8)	197	8.6 (1.7)	495	7.9 (1.9)

6 month visit	201	8.4 (1.7)	34	7.6 (2.4)	53	8.0 (2.0)	177	8.6 (1.5)	465	8.4 (1.7)
CWIQ QoL satisfaction ^d										
Clinic visit	216	7.4 (2.2)	34	7.5 (2.0)	48	7.8 (1.7)	197	8.6 (1.7)	495	7.9 (2.0)
6 month visit	201	8.3 (1.9)	34	7.5 (2.6)	53	8.1 (2.1)	176	8.5 (1.9)	464	8.3 (2.0)
CWIQ Physical symptoms and daily living experience ^e										
Clinic visit	216	81.2 (22.0)	34	76.5 (21.4)	49	75.1 (22.1)	198	91.8 (15.0)	497	84.5 (20.4)
6 month visit	202	92.7 (14.8)	34	85.2 (22.0)	54	92.5 (14.3)	177	92.7 (12.3)	467	92.1 (14.6)
CWIQ Physical symptoms and daily living stress ^e										
Clinic visit	216	85.0 (22.2)	34	82.1 (21.9)	49	81.2 (20.8)	197	94.9 (12.9)	496	88.4 (19.6)
6 month visit	197	94.8 (14.6)	34	88.3 (18.2)	53	94.8 (12.3)	177	95.7 (9.5)	461	94.7 (13.0)
CWIQ Wellbeing ^e										
Clinic visit	216	57.9 (23.3)	34	54.1 (24.2)	49	58.6 (22.6)	196	68.7 (22.5)	495	62.0 (23.6)
6 month visit	199	68.5 (22.4)	34	56.5 (22.0)	52	66.7 (24.3)	175	68.1 (22.8)	460	67.3 (22.9)

a) Self reported pain related to pilonidal sinus ranges from 0 (no pain) to 10 (worst imaginable pain), b) EQ-5D-5L ranges from -0.22 to 1, higher scores represent better health. c) EQ-5D your health today ranges from 0 (worst health) to 100 (best health), d) CWIQ QoL; Cardiff Wound Impact Questionnaire Quality of Life, CWIQ QoL and QoL satisfaction range from 0-10, higher scores represent better QoL/satisfaction. e) CWIQ scores range from 0-100, higher scores indicate greater impact.

Table 5: Comparison of time to healing between major and minor procedures

	Major procedure		Minor procedure			
Model	n	Median (IQR) days	n	Median (IQR) days	N	
Raw difference	336	70 (31,152)	217	30 (14,154)	553	39.7 (27.0, 52.4)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki					546	36.7 (23.8, 49.6)
Risk adjusted – chosen model (Wysocki, BMI, smoking status, pus)					452	34.8 (19.9, 49.6)
Risk adjusted – full model					368	38.2 (22.3, 54.1)
Propensity adjusted – inverse probability weighting (IPW)					536	111.3 (-10.9, 233.4)
Augmented IPW					452	53.5 (28.8, 78.2)

Reference group: minor procedures risk adjusted difference estimated using parametric accelerated survival time with adjustment for covariates as listed, full model includes adjustment for sex, BMI, natal cleft depth, gluteal hair, smoking status, Wysocki classification, pit density, lateral distance, lateral distribution and presence of pus. Propensity adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, presence of pus. IPW + regression (Inverse Probability weighting) adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, and presence of pus.

Table 6: Comparison of time to return to normal activity between major and minor procedures

Time to return to normal activity	n	Difference (days) (95% CI)*
Raw difference	607	21.0 (16.3, 25.7)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki	600	20.3 (15.6, 24.9)
Risk adjusted – Chosen model (natal cleft depth, Wysocki, lateral distribution)	502	19.8 (14.7, 24.9)
Risk adjusted – full model	403	19.8 (14.0, 25.6)
Propensity adjusted – inverse weighting	589	35.6 (19.8, 51.4)
IPW + regression	502	25.9 (18.4, 33.4)

Reference group: minor procedures risk adjusted difference estimated using parametric accelerated survival time with adjustment for covariates as listed, full model includes adjustment for sex, BMI, natal cleft depth, gluteal hair, smoking status, Wysocki classification, pit density, lateral distance, lateral distribution and presence of pus. Propensity adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, presence of pus. IPW + regression (Inverse Probability weighting) adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, natal cleft depth, lateral distribution, and presence of pus.

Table 7: Comparison of complications during follow-up between major and minor procedure

Complications	Major procedures	Minor procedures	n	Risk difference (95% CI) ^a
Raw difference	207/385 (54%)	94/258 (36%)	643	17.3% (9.6, 25.0)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki			638	16.7% (8.8, 24.6)
Risk adjusted – chosen model (BMI, Wysocki)			590	17.3% (9.1, 25.6)
Risk adjusted – full model			424	20.0% (10.4, 29.6)
Propensity adjusted – IPW			627	16.5% (8.1, 24.8)
Propensity matching			627	15.9% (7.1, 24.7)
Augmented IPW			579	17.5% (9.1, 25.9)

Reference group: minor procedures, risk adjusted difference estimated using logistic regression with adjustment for covariates as listed, full model includes adjustment for rex, BMI, natal cleft depth, gluteal hair, smoking status, Wysocki classification, pit density, lateral distance, lateral distribution and presence of pus. Propensity adjusted and propensity matching adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, presence of pus, Augmented IPW (Inverse Probability weighting) adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, BMI, and presence of pus. IPW inverse probability weighting

Table 8: Comparison of recurrence between major and minor procedures

	Recurrence			Recurrence (within 6 months)				Treatment failure				
Recurrence	Major procedures	Minor procedures	n	Risk difference (95% CI) ^a	Major procedures	Minor procedures	n	Risk difference (95% CI) ^a	Major procedure	Minor procedure	n	Risk difference (95% CI) ^a
Raw difference	86/373 (23%)	87/256 (34%)	629	-10.9% (-18.1, -3.7)	51/337 (15%)	61/229 (27%)	566	-11.5 (-18.4, -4.6)	169/373 (45%)	121/257 (47%)	630	-1.8 (-9.7, 6.1)
Risk adjusted – Wysocki			624	-11.1% (-18.5, -3.7)			561	-11.3 (-18.4, -4.2)			625	-2.2 (-10.4, 5.9)
Risk adjusted – Chosen model (Wysocki, pit density)			577	-9.0% (-16.6, -1.3)			516	-9.4 (-16.7, -2.0)			578	-1.7 (-10.1, 6.7)
Risk adjusted – full model			409	-8.4% (-17.7, 0.8)			366	-7.4 (-16.4, 1.6)			410	1.2 (-8.7, 11.1)
Propensity adjusted – inverse weighting			613	-13.8% (-22.0, -5.7)			550	-12.9 (-20.7, -5.1)			614	-5.2 (-13.8, 3.4)
Propensity matching			613	-12.0% (-20.5, -3.5)			550	-12.5 (-21.0, -4.1)			614	-3.5 (-12.5, 5.6)
Augmented IPW			575	-10.1% (-18.1, -2.1)			514	-9.6 (-17.3, -1.9)			576	-2.3 (-10.9, 6.2)

a) Reference group: minor procedures, risk adjusted difference estimated using logistic regression with adjustment for covariates as listed, full model includes adjustment for sex, BMI, natal cleft depth, gluteal hair, smoking status, Wysocki classification, pit density, lateral distance, lateral distribution and presence of pus. Propensity adjusted and propensity matching adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, presence of pus. Augmented IPW (Inverse Probability weighting) adjusted for sex, Wysocki classification, BMI, and presence of pus.

Table 9: Adverse Events (AEs) and Serious Adverse Events (SAEs)

	Asymmetric closure (n=272)	Leave Open (n=49)	Midline closure (n=76)	Minimal excision (n=270)	All (n=667)
Number (%) of participants who experienced ≥ 1 AE	64(24%)	7(14%)	19(25%)	17(6%)	107(16%)
Number of all AEs (including repeated events)	94	8	24	19	145
Category					
Anaesthetic AE	2 (2%)	1 (13%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	3 (2%)
Bleeding/haematoma	7 (7%)	0 (0%)	4 (17%)	0 (0%)	11 (8%)
Dehiscence	22 (23%)	0 (0%)	6 (25%)	2 (11%)	30 (21%)
Discharge	2 (2%)	1 (13%)	3 (13%)	3 (16%)	9 (6%)
Medication AE	4 (4%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4 (3%)
Seroma	2 (2%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	2 (1%)
Seton break	1 (1%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (1%)
Wound infection	54 (57%)	6 (75%)	11 (46%)	14 (74%)	85 (59%)
Number (%) of participants who experienced ≥ 1 SAE	6(2%)	1(2%)	2(3%)	2(1%)	11(2%)
Number of all SAEs (including repeated events)	6	1	2	2	11
Seriousness					
Inpatient hospitalisation	4 (67%)	1 (100%)	2 (100%)	2 (100%)	9 (82%)
Considered medically significant by the investigator	1 (17%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (9%)
Category					
Bleeding/haematoma	1 (17%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (9%)
Seton break	1 (17%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	1 (9%)
Wound infection	4 (67%)	1 (100%)	2 (100%)	2 (100%)	9 (82%)
Expected SAE	5 (83%)	1 (100%)	1 (50%)	2 (100%)	9 (82%)