

Ultrasound-guided supraclavicular brachial plexus block versus intravenous regional anaesthesia for the manipulation of fractures of the distal radius

Submission date 28/05/2010	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
Registration date 31/08/2010	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Last Edited 18/04/2017	Condition category Injury, Occupational Diseases, Poisoning	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input type="checkbox"/> Results
		<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data
		<input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

Contact name

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Contact details

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Additional identifiers

Protocol serial number

V 2.0

Study information

Scientific Title

Ultrasound-guided supraclavicular brachial plexus block versus intravenous regional anaesthesia for the manipulation of fractures of the distal radius: a randomised controlled trial

Acronym

SCivi

Study objectives

Is ultrasound-guided brachial plexus block equivalent to intravenous regional anaesthesia in providing pain relief for the manipulation of fractures of the distal radius?

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Study design

Randomised controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Distal radius fractures

Interventions

Intravenous regional anaesthesia:

An intravenous cannula will be placed in the dorsum of the hand of the affected limb and a second cannula placed in the contralateral limb. A suitably sized double cuff tourniquet will be placed around the upper arm over a layer of orthopaedic wool. The limb will be elevated for two minutes and the tourniquet inflated to 80 mmHg above the systolic blood pressure. Following confirmation of the absence of a radial pulse and capillary refill in the fingers the dose of 0.5% prilocaine will be injected via the cannula in the dorsum of the affected hand. The volume injected will be 40 ml for patients weighing less than 70 kg and 50 ml for those 70 kg and over. Once anaesthesia has been confirmed by the absence of pin-prick sensation as outlined below, the manipulation will be performed. The tourniquet will remain inflated for a minimum of 20 minutes from the time of injection.

Supraclavicular brachial plexus block:

The intervention group will undergo an ultrasound-guided brachial plexus block using the following technique: an intravenous cannula will be placed in the non-affected hand. The block will be performed using a sterile technique (sterile gloves, chlorhexidine spray, sterile probe cover). Visualisation of the brachial plexus will be undertaken with a Siemens Acuson X300 ultrasound machine with 10 MHz linear array probe. A view of the subclavian artery and surrounding nerve trunks will be obtained with the probe placed in the supraclavicular fossa in the coronal oblique plane. With the patient supine and the head turned at 45 degrees away from the probe. 1 ml of 1% lignocaine will be infiltrated in the skin at the injection site. A 22 gauge 50 mm short bevelled insulated block needle (Braun, Stimuplex) will be inserted at the lateral edge

of the probe. The needle will be guided under direct vision from lateral to medial along the long axis of the probe using an in-plane approach. A total of 20 ml of 1% prilocaine will be injected around the trunks with frequent aspiration to exclude inadvertent intravascular needle placement. Spread of local anaesthetic will be observed in real time. Injection will be into at least two separate areas around the nerve trunks.

Duration will be around 1 hour in total for each intervention. Total duration of follow-up will be until seen in fracture clinic. This will be approximately 3 to 7 days in both arms.

Intervention Type

Other

Phase

Not Applicable

Primary outcome(s)

1. Degree of pain experienced by the patient during manipulation, assessed by a Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) score
2. Overall satisfaction with procedure, assessed by a Visual Analogue Scale (VAS) score
3. Duration from randomisation to completion of the manipulation

Assessed at the end of the manipulation of the fracture, i.e. approximately one hour after entering the trial.

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Number of manipulations required
2. Emergency department (ED) length of stay
3. Time from commencing the procedure until discharge
4. Need for subsequent surgical intervention

Assessed at 3 - 7 days.

Completion date

01/10/2011

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Aged greater than or equal to 18 years, either sex
2. Closed fracture of the distal third of the radius
3. Manipulation of the fracture required in the emergency department as judged by an emergency department middle grade doctor or consultant

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 years

Sex

All

Key exclusion criteria

1. Confusion (Abbreviated Mental Test [AMT] less than 8)
2. Multiple injuries
3. Pre-existing sensory or motor deficit in the affected limb
4. Allergy to lignocaine or prilocaine
5. Any condition precluding the use of a tourniquet in the affected limb
6. Inability to read English
7. Middle grade doctor or consultant trained in intravenous regional anesthesia (IVRA) and supraclavicular block (SCB) not available
8. Significant pre-existing respiratory impairment (defined as exercise tolerance less than 100 metres on flat ground)
9. Anticoagulation, inherited bleeding disorders or any other known clotting or platelet deficiency or abnormality. The use of anti-platelet medications such as aspirin will not count as a contraindication.

Date of first enrolment

01/10/2010

Date of final enrolment

01/10/2011

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Barnsley

United Kingdom

S75 2EP

Sponsor information

Organisation

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (UK)

ROR

<https://ror.org/00yx91b22>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (UK)

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Not provided at time of registration

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Participant information sheet	Participant information sheet	11/11/2025	11/11/2025	No	Yes