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# Self Cast Removal at the Child's Home

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| **Submission date**<br>07/08/2008 | **Recruitment status**<br>No longer recruiting | [_] Prospectively registered<br>[_] Protocol<br>[_] Statistical analysis plan<br>[_] Results<br>[_] Individual participant data<br>[_] Record updated in last year |
| **Registration date**<br>13/08/2008 | **Overall study status**<br>Completed | |
| **Last Edited**<br>27/03/2013 | **Condition category**<br>Injury, Occupational Diseases, Poisoning | |

**Plain English summary of protocol**
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**
Scientific

**Contact name**
Prof Keith Willett

**Contact details**
Kadoorie Centre
John Radcliffe Hospital
Headington
Oxford
United Kingdom
OX3 9DU

## Additional identifiers

**Protocol serial number**
N/A

## Study information

**Scientific Title**
A randomised controlled trial to assess the treatment of stable upper limb fractures in children, comparing traditional rigid casts with flexible casts suitable for home removal by the parent

**Acronym**
SCRATCH

## Study objectives
An equivalence study of stable upper limb fractures in children to ascertain whether:
1. The use of a home-removable flexible cast is clinically equivalent to the rigid cast, in the management of stable upper limb fractures in children
2. The use of a home-removable flexible cast is more cost-effective than the hospital removal of a rigid cast, in the management of stable upper limb fractures in children
3. The parent and patient are satisfied with the use and home removal of the flexible cast

## Ethics approval required
Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)
Mid and South Buckinghamshire Research Ethics Committee. Date of approval: 12/03/2008 (ref: 08/H0607/20)

## Study design
Pragmatic, individually randomised controlled equivalence study

## Primary study design
Interventional

## Study type(s)
Treatment

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied
Upper limb fractures in children

## Interventions
Participants will be randomised to one of two basic treatment interventions:
1. Traditional plaster of Paris or fibreglass rigid cast with follow-up in the fracture clinic for removal
2. Home-removable flexible cast taken off at home by the parent/ carer. They will not be observed removing the cast but an appointment in fracture clinic will be available on request if required

## Intervention Type
Other

## Phase
Not Specified

## Primary outcome(s)
Clinical equivalence using the difference in Childhood Health Assessment Questionnaire score between pre-injury and one week post cast removal. Equivalence will be defined by a difference of less than 10%.

## Key secondary outcome(s))
1. Clinical equivalence using the difference in Childhood Health Assessment Questionnaire score between pre-injury and 6 months post cast removal

2. Cost effectiveness of flexible casts over rigid casts
3. User satisfaction of flexible casts using a modified Paediatric Quality of Life Inventory (PedsQL) Healthcare Satisfaction Questionnaire to be completed at 1 week post cast removal

### Completion date
13/03/2011

## Eligibility

### Key inclusion criteria
1. All children (both males and females) with stable upper limb fracture
2. Aged between 2 and 16 years
3. Presenting within 72 hours of sustaining the injury
4. Attending with a responsible adult

### Participant type(s)
Patient

### Healthy volunteers allowed
No

### Age group
Child

### Lower age limit
2 years

### Upper age limit
16 years

### Sex
All

### Key exclusion criteria
1. Fracture other than simple torus, greenstick or stable epiphyseal fracture
2. Multi-limb trauma
3. In-patient
4. Suspicion of non-accidental injury
5. Previous surgery or significant injury to affected arm
6. Developmental delay
7. Failure to thrive
8. Pre-existing musculoskeletal disease affecting the upper limb
9. On medications that influence bone metabolism
10.Live outside the hospital catchment area or will find attending for follow-up difficult

### Date of first enrolment
30/05/2008

### Date of final enrolment
13/03/2011

# Locations

### Countries of recruitment
United Kingdom

England

### Study participating centre
**Kadoorie Centre**
Oxford
United Kingdom
OX3 9DU

# Sponsor information

### Organisation
Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS Trust (UK)

### ROR
https://ror.org/03h2bh287

# Funder(s)

### Funder type
Government

### Funder Name
Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals NHS 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 | | | | |

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| Participant information sheet | 11/11/2025 | 11/11/2025 | No | Yes |