A randomised prospective trial comparing bioabsorbable versus titanium plates in the treatment of mandibular and zygomatic fractures

Recruitment status	Prospectively registered
No longer recruiting	☐ Protocol
Overall study status	Statistical analysis plan
Completed	Results
Condition category	Individual participant data
Oral Health	Record updated in last year
	No longer recruiting Overall study status Completed Condition category

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 N0265154611

Study information

Scientific Title

A randomised prospective trial comparing bioabsorbable versus titanium plates in the treatment of mandibular and zygomatic fractures

Study objectives

Mandibular and zygomatic fractures are conventually fixed by open reduction and internal fixation using titanium plates and screws. Between 18-35% of these plates are subsequently removed due to complications such as loosening.

Bioabsorbable plates are now available as an alternative to metal plates. The potential advantage of using resorbable plates is that the reoperation rate to remove titanium plates that develop complications would be greatly reduced.

The Inion(R) bioabsorbable material comprises the polymers L-polylactic acid, D/L-polylactic acid, trimethylene carbonate and polyglycolic acid. The material degrades by hydrolysis into carbon dioxide and water, in a similar fashion to "dissolving" sutures. The degradation profile provides initial stability to the facial bone and then progressive.

Although bioabsorbable plates have been used in facial fractures there is no prospective data to confirm that they are equivalent to titanium plates. A prospective comparison of the two systems would define whether bioabsorbable plates have a lower complication rate and whether a reduction in reoperation rate can be achieved.

The Null hypothesis to be answered is: there is no difference in the re-operation rate in mandibular and zygomatic fracture repair between titanium and Inion(R) bioabsorbable plates.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

Study design

Prospective single-blind randomised single-centre study

Primary study design

Interventional

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Oral Health

Interventions

All patients presenting to the maxillofacial trauma service at University Hospital Birmingham with mandibular and maxillary fractures will be randomised to two treatment arms:

- 1. Conventional treatment with ORIF using titanium miniplates
- 2. ORIF using bioabsorbable plates

Invasive procedures and investigations: no change in pre-operative workup will be required Duration of study: outpatient review at 1 week, 6 weeks, six months and 12 months

End points/outcomes: a comparison of complication rates in each group. Expected complications: infection, loosening of plates and screws, plate fracture, plate exposure (in mouth), malunion, non-union of fracture

Intervention Type

Procedure/Surgery

Primary outcome(s)

The rate of removal of resorbable vs non resorbable plates in facial fractures

Key secondary outcome(s))

Not provided at time of registration

Completion date

25/01/2008

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

- 1. Healthy adult volunteers
- 2. Traumatic mandibular or zygomatic fractures

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Adult

Sex

Not Specified

Key exclusion criteria

- 1. Overt infection
- 2. Pregnancy
- 3. Under 16
- 4. Pathological fractures, prisoner, malignancy

Date of first enrolment

01/03/2005

Date of final enrolment

25/01/2008

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

Study participating centre Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham United Kingdom B15 2TH

Sponsor information

Organisation

Record Provided by the NHSTCT Register - 2006 Update - Department of Health

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

University Hospital Birmingham NHS Trust (UK), NHS R&D Support Funding

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 No Yes