

Dupuytren's interventions surgery vs collagenase

Submission date 04/04/2017	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	☒ Prospectively registered ☒ Protocol
Registration date 11/04/2017	Overall study status Completed	☒ Statistical analysis plan ☒ Results
Last Edited 04/06/2026	Condition category Musculoskeletal Diseases	☐ Individual participant data

Plain English summary of protocol

Current plain English summary as of 18/11/2020:

Background and study aims

Dupuytren's contracture is a common problem affecting the hand. The condition is caused by fibrous tissue which forces the finger to bend down into the palm meaning patients cannot straighten their finger. The common treatment is surgery to remove the tissue and straighten the bent finger. A new treatment is a Collagenase injection, which softens the fibrous tissue. This is given in clinic, and is followed up in clinic a few days later where the finger is moved to help to straighten it. Both treatments have been offered on the NHS in England and in the USA and Europe, but it is not known if the injection is as good as surgery at correcting the bent finger, if the correction continues in the long term and if the complication rates are similar. The aim of this study is to find out whether collagenase injections are as good and as safe as surgery for treating this condition and to find out the cost of both treatments to see which is the best value for money. Participants are also asked what they think about the different treatments, to see if they prefer one treatment more than the other.

Who can participate?

Patients aged 18 and over who have Dupuytren's contracture

What does the study involve?

The participant's hand is assessed and a photograph is taken, and the participant is asked some questions about their condition and their general health. Participants are then randomly allocated to receive either the injection or surgery. Before they receive their treatment, the hand is re-assessed and the participant completes a short questionnaire about their hand health. During the study participants will complete a further 4 visits (face to face in the hospital, via video call or via telephone call) where their hand is assessed, they are asked some questions about their hand function and general health, and a photograph is taken of their hand.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The information from this study may help doctors to treat people with Dupuytren's contracture more effectively in the future. However, as with any treatment, there are always potential risks. Common side effects of Collagenase include injection site swelling, bruising and pain. These

often subside within 1 – 2 weeks of the injection. The injection may also cause dizziness, headaches, a tingling sensation or a reduced sense of touch. Very rarely, allergic reactions and tendon rupture may occur. Common side effects of surgery may be experienced such as pain, bruising, swelling or infection, in addition to anaesthetic side effects such as dizziness, headaches and numbness.

Where is the study run from?

York Trials Unit, University of York (UK). The Chief Investigator is Professor Joe Dias (<https://www2.le.ac.uk/colleges/medbiopsych/teaching/academic-champions/people/professor-joseph-dias>)

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

May 2017 to July 2022

Who is funding the study?

National Institute for Health Research Health Technology Assessment Programme (UK)

Who is the main contact?

1. Catherine Arundel (public)
catherine.arundel@york.ac.uk
2. Puvan Tharmanathan (scientific)
puvan.nathan@york.ac.uk

Previous plain English summary as of 31/10/2018:

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1. Catherine Arundel (scientific)

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2. Michelle Watson (public)

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Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Type(s)

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Contact name

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Additional identifiers**Clinical Trials Information System (CTIS)**

2016-004251-76

Protocol serial number

Sponsor ID: 2087230; HTA 15/102/04

Study information**Scientific Title**

A pragmatic multi-centre randomised controlled non-inferiority, cost effectiveness trial comparing injections of collagenase into the cord to surgical correction in the treatment of moderate Dupuytren's contracture in adult patients

Acronym

DISC

Study objectives

Collagenase injection is not inferior to limited fasciectomy in the correction of Dupuytren's contracture of the hand.

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Yorkshire and Humber Leeds West Research Ethics Committee, 22/05/2017, ref: 17/YH/0120

Primary study design

Interventional

Study design

Multi-centre randomized controlled non-inferiority pragmatic trial

Study type(s)

Treatment

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Dupuytren's contracture

Interventions

Current interventions as of 18/11/2020:

The participant's hand is assessed, a photograph is taken and they are asked some questions about their condition and their general health. Participants are randomised to either the intervention or the control group. Before they receive their treatment, their hand is re-assessed and they are asked to complete a short questionnaire about their hand health.

1. Intervention: Collagenase Clostridium histolyticum injections

Depending on the cord affected 0.25ml or 0.20ml of reconstituted solution (0.58mg Collagenase Clostridium histolyticum) is injected as three aliquots: 0.25ml for cord in a metacarpophalangeal (MCP) joint, 0.20ml for cord in a proximal interphalangeal (PIP) joint. The three aliquots are distributed via injection into an affected cord at set anatomical points through a single needle puncture at a single time point. Patients will be scheduled for Collagenase injection within 18 weeks following randomisation (as per referral to treatment time RTT), however where possible sites should complete this procedure within 12 weeks post randomisation. After an interval of one to seven days, the patient then returns to clinic and, under local anaesthetic, the cord is snapped using a four-step process. Two additional visits by the patient may therefore be required for the intervention to be delivered; one for injection and one for manipulation. Separate cords may be injected at the same treatment, in line with the SmPC, following the injection procedure and using separate vials for each cord. If multiple cords are injected, only the reference cord injection will be deemed to be part of the trial treatment. Given the pragmatic nature of DISC, follow-up Collagenase injections will be at clinician discretion this includes the timing of manipulation and of further injections to the same cord.

2. Control: limited fasciectomy surgery

Limited fasciectomy involves the removal, under anaesthesia and tourniquet control, of the diseased fascia, nodule and cord, or a part of it, to correct the contracture of the joint. As deemed clinically appropriate, the skin may then be left to heal by secondary intention, closed directly, or closed with a Z plasty or closed using a full thickness skin graft. Patients will be scheduled for the limited fasciectomy surgery to be completed within 18 weeks following randomisation (as per referral to treatment time-RTT), however where possible sites should complete this procedure within 12 weeks post randomisation.

During the study participants will complete a further 4 visits (face to face in the hospital, via video call or via telephone call) where their hand is assessed, they are asked some questions about their hand function and general health, and a photograph is taken of their hand.

Previous interventions:

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During the study participants need to come to the hospital for another 4 visits where their hand is assessed, they are asked some questions about their hand function and general health, and a photograph is taken of their hand.

Intervention Type

Drug

Phase

Phase IV

Drug/device/biological/vaccine name(s)

Collagenase Clostridium histolyticum (CCH)

Primary outcome(s)

Hand health and overall hand assessment, measured using the Patient Evaluation Measure at baseline, pre treatment, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment

Key secondary outcome(s)

Current secondary outcome measures as of 31/10/2018:

1. Disability, measured using the Unité Rhumatologique des Affections de la Main (URAM) Patient Rated Outcome Measure at baseline, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
2. Hand function, daily activities, work performance, pain, aesthetics and patient satisfaction, measured using the Michigan Hand Questionnaire (MHQ) Measured at baseline, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
3. Extension deficit and total active movement (for stiffness), measured using goniometry and photograph data at baseline, pre-treatment, post-treatment (measurements only) and 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
4. Recurrence, measured using goniometry at 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
5. Further procedures, recorded by clinicians at 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
6. Complications, recorded by clinicians at 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
7. Generic health status, measured using the EQ-5D-5L at baseline, 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
8. Resource use, measured using trial specific resource use questionnaire to collect NHS resource use, return to work and out of pocket expenses at 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment
9. Time to recovery of function, measured using Single Assessment Numeric Evaluation (SANE) via remote data collection at baseline, 2 weeks, 6 weeks, 3 months, 6 months, 1 year and 2 years post treatment

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Completion date

31/07/2022

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Male or female and aged 18 years or over
2. Presence of discrete, palpable, contracted cord involving the metacarpophalangeal joint and/or proximal interphalangeal joint of a finger
3. Degree of contracture ≥ 30 degrees in either joint i.e. patient cannot put the palm of the hand flat on a table (Hueston's Table top test)
4. Able to identify a predominant cord for treatment which would not require more than one Collagenase injection as treatment
5. Appropriate for limited fasciectomy surgery and Collagenase injection for Dupuytren's contracture (i.e. cords suitable for CCH and limited fasciectomy and not requiring skin grafting or PNF (e.g. discrete MCP cords in elderly))
6. Patient is willing and able to give informed consent for participation in the study

Participant type(s)

Patient

Healthy volunteers allowed

No

Age group

Mixed

Lower age limit

18 Years

Upper age limit

110 Years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

673

Key exclusion criteria

Current exclusion criteria as of 31/10/2018:

1. Severe contractures of both metacarpophalangeal joint and/or proximal interphalangeal joints (Tubiana Grade 4)
2. History of previous intervention for Dupuytren's contracture (e.g. surgery, Collagenase injection or needle fasciectomy) to the study reference digit
3. History of any other pre-existing disorder of the hand causing significant restriction of movement and/or pain and affecting hand function e.g. post traumatic stiffness, stiffness due to other causes, infection, arthritis
4. Non-English speaking because of the need to complete multiple questionnaires which have not been validated in multiple languages
5. Resident in a location where attendance for follow up at one of the study recruiting centres will not be possible
6. Contraindicated for use of Collagenase including hypersensitivity to: Collagenase, Sucrose,

Ketorolac Trometamol, hydrochloric acid, calcium chloride dehydrate, sodium chloride

7. Diagnosis of a coagulation disorder

8. Any other significant disease or disorder (including autoimmune disorders) which, in the opinion of the Investigator, may put the participant at risk because of participation in the study, or may influence the result of the study, or the participant's ability to participate in the study

9. Participation in another research study involving an investigational product in the past 12 weeks

10. Female participants who report to be pregnant or breastfeeding

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2. History of previous intervention for Dupuytren's contracture (e.g. surgery, Collagenase injection or needle fasciectomy) on the same hand

3. History of any other pre-existing disorder of the hand causing significant restriction of movement and/or pain and affecting hand function e.g. post traumatic stiffness, stiffness due to other causes, infection, arthritis

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Date of first enrolment

01/05/2017

Date of final enrolment

31/03/2021

Locations

Countries of recruitment

United Kingdom

England

Study participating centre

University Hospitals of Leicester

-

-
England
LE5 4QF

Study participating centre
Derby Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

-
-
England
DE22 3NE

Study participating centre
The Royal Orthopaedic Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

-
-
England
B31 2AP

Study participating centre
University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust

-
-
England
SO16 6YD

Study participating centre
Royal Liverpool and Broadgreen University Hospitals NHS Trust

-
-
England
L7 8XP

Study participating centre
The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

-
-
England
NE7 7DN

Sponsor information

Organisation

University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust

ROR

https://ror.org/02fha3693

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

Health Technology Assessment Programme

Alternative Name(s)

NIHR Health Technology Assessment Programme, Health Technology Assessment (HTA), HTA

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

National government

Location

United Kingdom

Results and Publications

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

IPD sharing plan summary

Data sharing statement to be made available at a later date

Study outputs

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
Results article		09/10/2024	10/10/2024	Yes	No
Results article	Cost-Effectiveness	18/08/2025	04/06/2026	Yes	No
	NIHR Journals Library Extended Research Article	31/12	04/06		

Results article		/2024	/2026	Yes	No
Protocol article		30/09 /2021	19/10 /2021	Yes	No
HRA research summary			28/06 /2023	No	No
Other files	Health economics analysis plan version 1.0	29/09 /2021	03/02 /2023	No	No
Other files	Results Infographic version 1.0	19/06 /2023	06/11 /2024	No	No
Other publications	Results from a feasibility study within a trial (SWAT) across four host trials, including this study	15/06 /2022	04/06 /2026	Yes	No
Other unpublished results	End of Study Report version 1.0	15/06 /2023	06/11 /2024	No	No
Statistical Analysis Plan	version 1.0	29/09 /2021	03/02 /2023	No	No
Study website	Study website	11/11 /2025	11/11 /2025	No	Yes