

# The efficacy of playing a virtual reality (VR) game in modulating pain for children with acute burn injuries: A randomised controlled trial

**Submission date**  
23/02/2005

**Recruitment status**  
No longer recruiting

Prospectively registered

Protocol

**Registration date**  
23/02/2005

**Overall study status**  
Completed

Statistical analysis plan

Results

**Last Edited**  
13/10/2009

**Condition category**  
Injury, Occupational Diseases, Poisoning

Individual participant data

## 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

## Study information

Scientific Title

### Acronym

VR for pain relief

**Study objectives**

The efficacy of playing a virtual reality (VR) game in modulating pain for children with acute burn injuries

**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)**

Not Specified

**Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied**

Paediatric burns

**Interventions**

The test administrations of routine pharmacological analgesia or routine pharmacological analgesia coupled with virtual reality were randomly assigned to each half of the burns dressing change (removal of existing burns dressings or application of fresh dressings) following a coin toss determining the sequence. The child and parents were given a standard explanation about the VR administration and the VR game. If required, subjects were allowed a short preview to assist them to understand how to play the game.

**Intervention Type**

Other

**Phase**

Not Specified

**Primary outcome(s)**

The subjects were asked to score their average pain experience at the end of each phase of the dressing change procedure (VR and pharmacological analgesics, and pharmacological analgesics only). Pain was scored using a modified self-report Faces pain scale. The scale depicts increasing levels of pain and is offered in combination with a visual analogue scale of 0-10, associated with each picture representing a level of pain. Parents/carers and nurses were also interviewed by the data collector at these times, using open ended questions to obtain views regarding the child's anxiety and perception of pain, and utility of VR in a clinical setting.

**Key secondary outcome(s)**

Not provided at time of registration

**Completion date**

31/12/2004

# Eligibility

## Key inclusion criteria

All children admitted to one specific ward (Newlands Ward), Women's and Children's Hospital, aged between 5 and 18 years, having burns to more than three percent of their body surface area, and requiring dressing changes, were eligible for inclusion in the study.

## Participant type(s)

Patient

## Healthy volunteers allowed

No

## Age group

Child

## Sex

All

## Key exclusion criteria

Children with burns to their hands, face or head, past history of epilepsy and reduced intellectual capacity were not included, as they would have been unable to appropriately use the VR equipment.

## Date of first enrolment

01/01/2004

## Date of final enrolment

31/12/2004

# Locations

## Countries of recruitment

Australia

## Study participating centre

Centre for Allied Health Evidence

Adelaide

Australia

5000

# Sponsor information

## Organisation

Women's and Children's Hospital (Australia)

ROR

<https://ror.org/03kwrfk72>

## Funder(s)

### Funder type

University/education

### Funder Name

University of South Australia (Australia)

### Alternative Name(s)

UniversitySA, UniSA

### Funding Body Type

Government organisation

### Funding Body Subtype

Universities (academic only)

### Location

Australia

## 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?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	03/03/2005		Yes	No