Interim Report for BAOMS 23 November 2022

Trial Of Resorbable versus Non-Resorbable sutures for traumatic lacerations of the face (TORN Face)

CUH Trial Ref:	A095791
IRAS Project ID:	289842
ISRCTN ID:	ISRCTN55795740
NIHR Portfolio ID:	48907
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Co-investigators	Mr Vijay Santhanam, Mr Gareth Nugent, Mr Ian Jenkyn, Mr Ashley Ferro, Mr Henry Bennett, Dr Clarissa Hjalmarsson, Dr Jonathan Chu

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TORN Face is a single centre, single-blinded randomised controlled trial with 2 treatment arms: resorbable (Vicryl Rapide) versus non-resorbable (Ethilon) sutures for traumatic lacerations of the face.

The primary objective of this trial is to compare the long-term cosmetic outcome of using resorbable versus non-resorbable sutures. The primary outcome measures will be difference in visual analogue scale (VAS) cosmesis at six months post-wound closure. Secondary outcomes include patient reported outcomes, complication rates and a cost-benefit analysis.

We are very grateful to BAOMS endowments committee for financially supporting this study. Since our last inter-rim report we have the following updates:

1) **Successful completion of recruitment**

   We managed to recruit our final, 200th patient in late February 2023

2) **Successful completion of follow-up period**

   163 out of 200 patients (82%) completed the 6 month follow-up period. We are now processing all the final photographs and formally analysing the primary outcome with our consultants acting as blinded experts

3) **Presentation of preliminary results at BAOMS ASM 2023**

Shadi Basyuni presented our preliminary results at the most recent BAOMS meeting – feedback was encouraging with valuable input also strengthening our final manuscript write-up

4) **Manuscript writing**

We have commenced writing the final manuscript alongside outcome analysis. We hope to submit our findings to BJOMS in winter 2023.

The trial remains on budget, with projected costs unchanged at £4025. We are grateful for the support from BAOMS – without whom this project would not have been possible. In addition to the scientific impact for this work, the TORN Face trial has had a wider impact which has benefitted our specialty both locally and nationally:

1. **Recognition of our specialty within the University of Cambridge and Cambridge University Hospitals**
    - Our study represents the first trainee and student led trial in the region – this has been registered as a portfolio study at the Cambridge NIHR biomedical research centre and our achievement and smooth trial execution has been recognised
    - We continue to receive support from our Emergency Department colleagues who have offered support (conference fees and providing presentation platforms) to present our work to wider emergency medicine community
    - The University of Cambridge Department of Surgery has recently recognised this work and there are early plans to form an OMFS theme within the department where this and similar projects can be consolidated
2. **Facilitating recruitment and retention of our trainees**
    - Our research group and recruiting clinicians were made up of a diverse group of trainees – majority of whom were pre-second degree.
    - The following from the trial team have now committed to a career in OMFS:

Name	Position at start of TORN Face	Current Position
Gareth Nugent	Foundation doctor	Fellow-in Training
Ashley Ferro	Second degree student (dentistry)	Fellow-in Training
Ian Jenkyn	Second degree student (medicine)	Dual qualified – core trainee
Clarissa Hjalmarrson	First degree student (medicine)	Second degree student (dentistry)
Jonathan Chu	First degree student (medicine)	Second degree student (dentistry)
Maryam Bennani	First degree student (medicine)	Second degree student (dentistry)
Will Odelberg	Core Surgical Trainee	Second degree student (dentistry)
Robert Humphries	Core Surgical Trainee	Second degree student (dentistry)

3. **International recognition**
    - The trial team has been contacted by numerous colleagues from outside the UK to enquire about observerships and research experience – we have passed on contact details for our clinical directors and educational supervisors.

Once again, Thank you so much for all your support. We plan to report one more time following submission of manuscript with final details including full financial reports.

We will of course keep BAOMS up to date with any progress from our side. *If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the trial's chief investigator, Mr Shadi Basyuni, at shadi.basyuni@nhs.net.*

Shadi Basyuni