

BOAST Compliance Audit: Paediatric Forearm Fractures in the Emergency Department

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Type	AUDIT
Specialty	orthopaedics
Trust	Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust
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Background

Angulated forearm fractures in skeletally immature children require timely assessment and definitive manipulation under appropriate analgesia and sedation. The British Orthopaedic Association Standards for Trauma (BOAST) set out clear requirements for neurovascular assessment, analgesia administration, consent and imaging. Compliance with these standards at St Thomas' Emergency Department had not been formally audited.

Aims

To audit compliance with BOAST standards for the management of paediatric angulated forearm fractures presenting to St Thomas' Emergency Department.

Objectives

1. Identify all skeletally immature patients presenting with angulated forearm fractures between September and October 2022. 2. Assess documentation of neurovascular status (radial pulse, CRT, nerve function) at presentation. 3. Audit pain score recording and adequacy of analgesia. 4. Review availability of orthogonal X-rays and consent documentation prior to manipulation.

Guidelines

British Orthopaedic Association Standards for Trauma (BOAST) — Paediatric Forearm Fractures

Keywords

BOAST, paediatric fracture, forearm fracture, manipulation, emergency department, sedation