

## Investigating the incidence of vascular injury in open tibial fractures

May 2014

A Trompeter, C Hing  
St George's Healthcare NHS Trust, London

Open fractures of the tibia are reasonably common. Vascular injury may be associated with these open fractures. Some vascular injuries may not lead acute limb ischaemia but may be a cause of delayed healing and complications later on. Our primary outcome is to establish the true incidence of vascular injury, including occult intimal tears, in 100 consecutive open tibial fractures. Included patients will receive a CT Angiogram of the limb at admission, prior to surgical debridement and stabilization. Our secondary outcomes will be to look at the incidence of complications, delayed healing and non-unions and establish if there is a link with vascular injury. This will allow for better prognostic information and prediction of complications in this population.

The study is still recruiting patients. Dissemination of findings, when complete, will occur locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, including publication in peer review journals.

