Figure 1.

Patients at the ED with lateral ankle sprain (n=143)
Received initial treatment: an elastic compression bandage together with a standard advice (rest, ice, compression, and elevation)

After 5-7 days at the out patient clinic
Excluded (n=48)
- Did not meet inclusion criteria (n=32)
- Swelling, allergy, grade I sprain
- Refused to participate (n=11)
- Other reasons (n=5)

Randomized (n=100)
(at the outpatient clinic)

Allocated to taping (n=50)

Allocated to bracing (n=50)

Lost to follow-up (n=10)
- Excluded failed diagnoses (n=1)
- Unknown (no show) (n=9)

Lost to follow-up (n=9)
- Excluded failed diagnoses (n=1)
- Unknown (no show) (n=8)

Primary outcome
Follow-up at week 4
(injury dropout rate 1%)

Analyzied (n=40)

Analyzied (n=41)

Secondary outcome
Follow-up at week 12
(dropout rate 31%)

Lost to follow-up (n=5)
- Unknown (no show)

Lost to follow-up (n=6)
- Unknown (no show)

Analyzied (n=35)

Analyzied (n=35)