Reviewer’s report

Title: Ankle Injury Rehabilitation (AIR): A feasibility randomised controlled trial comparing functional bracing to plaster cast in the treatment of adult ankle fractures

Version: 0 Date: 02 Jan 2019

Reviewer: Sarah Jane White

Reviewer’s report:

This is a well written, comprehensive and focused paper describing the feasibility trial for an RCT comparing plaster cast to removable orthotic following adult ankle fracture. The objectives are clearly stated and then responded to appropriately in the results. I just have two comments.

1) P10 l212 You state 'A further 35 (18%) were eligible but declined to participate, the main reason being a preference for the functional brace.' Then in the next paragraph you go on to state 'Of the remaining 85 potential participants who were eligible, 50 (59%) patients consented'. On my first two readings of this I thought these were two different groups of decliners. Maybe this should be made clearer.

2) Table 2 - Need to include n's in this table. Mention whether or not there was any missing data in the outcomes. Also think the layout could be improved.

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