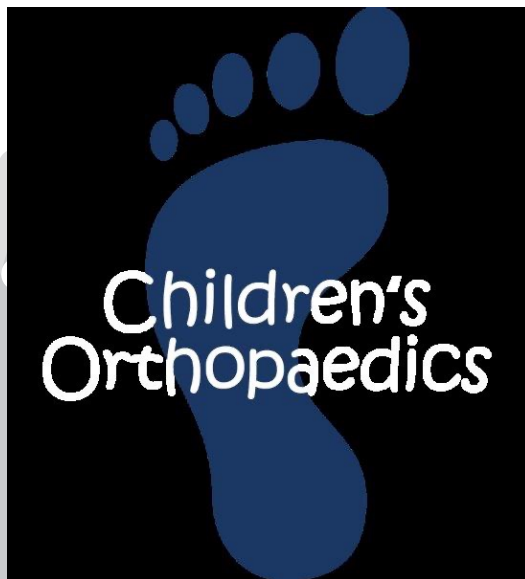


Information about

# Manipulation Under Anaesthetic (MUA)



Royal Hospital for Children  
Trauma and Orthopaedic Department  
1345 Govan Road  
Glasgow G51 4TF

## **Your child's injury**

Your child had an injury and the x-ray obtained shows a fracture (break in the bone) which is not in an ideal position.

## **How do you treat it?**

We will apply a backslab to help keep your child comfortable. This is half plaster cast and half soft bandage, which supports their fracture while allowing for any further swelling.

The orthopaedic team will arrange for your child to be admitted to the hospital to have their surgery. Your child will have a general anaesthetic which means they will be asleep and their muscles will be relaxed for the orthopaedic team to straighten out the bones. We will then apply a plaster of Paris (POP) to keep the bones in this position.

The plaster cast often has to be moulded to stop the bones from moving again, so it may look a bit lumpy. We usually put on brightly coloured lightweight layer of plaster before your child leaves the hospital, to further protect the cast.

## **Care at home**

Fractures are painful, but having a cast on will support the fracture and should relieve a lot of the pain.

In the first few days after the injury, simple pain killers like paracetamol (Calpol) and ibuprofen (Nurofen), can help. Always check the packaging and doses before giving any medication.

It is common for swelling to occur in the hands, fingers, feet or toes in the first few days after the fracture. It is important to keep your child's limb elevated (raised) on pillow or arm rest, to prevent swelling as much as possible.

Encouraging your child to regularly wiggle their fingers or toes also helps prevent swelling.

We will give you a plaster care advice leaflet which will tell you everything you need to know about caring for your cast and has the contact details for the hospital plaster team.

If your child has an upper limb fracture we will also give your child a sling wear to help support their arm. They should wear this when up and about, but they can remove it when sitting down. **Your child should not wear the sling while in bed or sleeping.**

We will review your child before they go home to make sure we are satisfied they are well enough and their pain can be managed effectively at home.

## Follow up

Your child will receive a fracture clinic appointment on:

\_\_\_\_\_

These clinics can be very busy as many children have x-rays taken, casts changed and are reviewed by orthopaedic staff over the course of a morning, so we ask for your patience.

When you attend, we expect your child to:

Have an X-ray

Be reviewed by a member of staff to decide on further plan

Your child's total time in cast will be approximately \_\_\_\_\_ weeks

## Concerns or queries

If you have any concerns about your child's condition please contact

**Acute orthopaedic trauma liaison team:**

**☎ 0141 451 8497 or 0141 451 5644**

**✉ [ggc.rhcorthotrauma@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:ggc.rhcorthotrauma@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)**

Or for plaster issues contact plaster room directly on

**☎ 0141 452 4129**



**🌐 [www.careopinion.org.uk/your opinion](http://www.careopinion.org.uk/your-opinion)**

We care about providing the best service for our patients therefore please visit care opinion to help us do this.

**'Patient First and Always'**