

Implementation of Negative Pressure for Acute Paediatric Burns

ACTRN12622000166774

Status	RECRUITING
Sponsor	Griffith University
Enrollment	400 participants

Plain Language Summary

Burns in children can cause significant pain, lengthy hospital stays, and challenging scar formation. Research has shown that applying negative pressure wound therapy (NPWT) — a sealed wound dressing that uses gentle suction — early after a paediatric burn leads to faster healing, less scarring, and lower overall treatment costs compared to standard silver dressings. Despite this strong evidence, NPWT is not yet widely used in Australian emergency departments and burns centres.

This implementation study, in partnership with four major Australian children's hospital burns centres, aims to change that. In Phase 1, clinicians and families will work together to design implementation strategies tailored to each hospital's specific environment. In Phase 2, those strategies will be rolled out and evaluated, with data collected on whether more children receive timely NPWT as a result.

Participants include clinicians and parents/carers (for co-design) and paediatric patients with acute burns (for the implementation phase). There are no formal exclusion criteria. This study does not test a new treatment — NPWT's effectiveness is already established — but rather addresses the critical gap between what the evidence supports and what actually happens in practice. Bridging that gap has direct potential to improve outcomes for Australian children with burns.

Key Eligibility Criteria

Inclusion (2)

- Clinicians from the ED and/or burns service who are responsible for burns care
- Parents and caregivers of children who have had a burn injury within the last year

Exclusion (1)

- None

Locations (4 total)

The Children's Hospital at Westmead - Westmead, NSW,QLD,WA,VIC, Australia
Perth Children's Hospital - Nedlands, NSW,QLD,WA,VIC, Australia
Queensland Children's Hospital - South Brisbane, NSW,QLD,WA,VIC, Australia
... and 1 more locations

<https://www.anzctr.org.au/Trial/Registration/TrialReview.aspx?ACTRN=ACTRN12622000166774>

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