

du Plessis M, Zipfel B, et al. Manual and manipulative therapy compared to night splint for symptomatic hallux abducto valgus: An exploratory randomised clinical trial. Foot 2011;21:71-78.

Design: randomized clinical trial

Purpose of study: to compare a combination of manual and manipulative therapy (MMT) to night splints for symptomatic hallux valgus, and to use the results to inform the design of a definitive trial

Reasons not to cite as evidence:

- The study is not designed to be a definitive study, but to be an exploratory pilot study
- The study succeeded in estimating sample sizes needed for a future definitive trial, for which a difference in outcome between MMT and night splints could be done with 204 patients (102 in each group)
- The study period was very short, only lasting four weeks
- The lack of evidence does not preclude including MMT as an option for hallux valgus, and the judgment of the task force will be needed to formulate a consensus statement for the guideline