

# Collagenase clostridium histolyticum for the treatment of Dupuytren's contracture: systematic review and economic evaluation

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## Plain English summary

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## Plain English summary

Dupuytren's disease is a benign condition of the hand, which causes thickening of tissues in the palm and the formation of 'cords'. Commonly, one or more fingers bend (contract) into the palm [referred to as Dupuytren's contracture (DC)] and cannot be straightened fully. Usually, DC is not painful and, in many cases, the contracture remains mild and does not require treatment. When it becomes more severe or the fingers cannot be used properly, treatments are recommended. Surgery is the treatment of choice for moderate and severe contractures, but many people experience complications and/or recurrences. Injections of collagenase clostridium histolyticum (Xiapex®, Pfizer Ltd) (a new substance that can weaken the contracture in the palm) may be used as an alternative to surgery in some patients.

This assessment has shown that fingers treated with collagenase achieved significantly more clinical success and clinical improvement than those treated with placebo. There was no evidence that collagenase was better or worse than surgical treatments. Adverse events after collagenase injections were generally mild to moderate. Based on the current evidence, collagenase does not appear to be the most cost-effective option to treat moderate to severe DC in people considered to be suitable candidates for surgery. Other surgical treatments appear more cost-effective, with limited fasciectomy (a type of surgery) being the most cost-effective choice. However, there are uncertainties in the data used for the economic evaluation. There is a need for sound clinical studies to compare the effects and costs of collagenase injections with those of surgical treatments.

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