



Desert Hand Therapy

Hand . Wrist . Elbow . Shoulder

February 22, 2005

PROSPECTIVE OUTCOME STUDY DISTAL RADIUS FRACTURES

Desert Hand Therapy began collecting data for a prospective outcome study on distal radius fractures in November 2004. We currently have over 40 patients in the study and plan to have a cohort of 200 patients by the end of 2005.

Patients referred to hand therapy following distal radius fracture, who have been treated surgically (external fixators, plates, screws and pins) and non-surgically (immobilization) are being included in the study.

One purpose of this study is to document outcome using the **Patient Rated Wrist Evaluation (PRWE)** described by MacDermid (2000). A second purpose is to gather quantitative data through **systematic measurement of impairment**. Gathering and examining this data may allow us to identify a factor or factors which influence return to work, activities of daily living and leisure pursuits.

The results of this study are expected to aid surgeons, therapists, patients, their employers and insurance providers. As you know there is a growing demand in the community, for providers of health care to have up-to-date information resulting from outcome based studies in their field.

Our goal is to present results from this study at the 2006 ASHT (American Society of Hand Therapists) annual meeting.

If you would like any further information about this study please contact **David Benn OT, MHS, CHT at (602.279.6905)**, Cofco Center Court, Suite 260.

Providing Excellence in Upper Extremity Rehabilitation.