Search outcome
Forty five papers were found none of which were relevant.

Comment
There is no literature on the simple management of pyogenic granulomas of the hand. A multicentre trial of treatments for this condition is warranted.

Clinical bottom line
There is no evidence to determine whether curettage or cautery with silver nitrate is a better treatment for simple pyogenic granuloma of the hand. Local advice should be followed.

Support for uncomplicated shaft of humerus fractures
Report by Katrina Herren, Research Fellow
Search checked by Simon Carley, Clinical Fellow

Clinical scenario
A 45 year old man attends emergency department having fallen off his bicycle. He has pain around his left upper arm. Examination reveals a probable fracture of the humerus and radiography confirms this. There are no neurovascular complications. You have received differing advice about the best way to support the arm after this injury. You wonder whether a broad arm sling or collar and cuff is best.

Three part question
In [adults with uncomplicated shaft of humerus fracture] is [collar and cuff better than broad arm sling] at [reducing pain and non-union]?

Search strategy
Medline 1966 to 12/98 using the OVID interface. [exp immobilization OR exp bandages OR collar and cuff.mp OR broad arm sling$.mp] AND ([exp humerus OR humerus.mp OR humeral.mp] AND [exp fractures OR fracture$.mp]) OR exp humeral fractures) LIMIT to human AND english language.

Search outcome
Forty five papers were found none of which were relevant.

Comment
There is no literature on the use of a collar and cuff or a sling in uncomplicated shaft of humerus injury.

Clinical bottom line
There is no evidence to determine if a collar and cuff is better than a sling for management of uncomplicated fractures of the shaft of humerus. Local advice should be followed.