

for cost savings. Additionally, the increased risk of cancer from a limb radiograph is negligible, equating to a risk of only a few hours of background radiation or a risk per exposure of <1 in a million.<sup>9</sup> As Stiell would argue, if the test is already “efficient” there is no need for a clinical decision rule.<sup>10</sup>

In summary, although clinical features are associated with the presence of a fracture, their low discriminatory value means the potential for a clinical decision rule for paediatric wrist trauma appears limited.

#### Authors' affiliations

**A P Webster**, Department of Intensive Care Medicine, Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, Hospital Avenue, Nedlands, Perth, Australia  
**S Goodacre, D Walker**, Department of Emergency Medicine, Northern General Hospital, Herries Road, Sheffield, UK  
**D Burke**, Department of Emergency Medicine, Sheffield Children's Hospital, Western Bank, Sheffield, UK

This study received no outside financial support

Competing interests: none declared

#### REFERENCES

- 1 **Pershad J**, Monroe K, King W, *et al*. Can clinical parameters predict fracture in acute paediatric wrist injury? *Acad Emerg Med* 2000;**7**:1152–5.
- 2 **Al-Adhami A**, Brennand C, Chiam P, *et al*. Clinical diagnosis of fractures in a paediatric population. *Eur J Emerg Med* 2005;**12**:99–101.
- 3 **Brand D**, Frazier W, Khalhepp W, *et al*. A protocol for selecting patients with injured extremities that need x-rays. *N Engl J Med* 1982;**306**:333–9.
- 4 **Rivara F**, Parish R, Mueller B. Extremity injuries in children: predictive value of clinical findings. *Pediatrics* 1986;**78**:803–7.
- 5 **McConnochie K**, Roghmann K, Pasternak J, *et al*. Prediction rules for selective radiographic assessment of extremity injuries in children and adolescents. *Pediatrics* 1990;**86**:45–53.
- 6 **Altman D**, Royston P. What do we mean by validating a prognostic model? *Stat Med* 2000;**19**:453–73.
- 7 **Dayan PS**, Vitale M, Langsam DJ, *et al*. Derivation of clinical prediction rules to identify children with fractures after twisting injuries of the ankle. *Acad Emerg Med* 2004;**11**:736–43.
- 8 **Libetta C**, Burke D, Brennan P, *et al*. Validation of the Ottawa ankle rules in children. *Emerg Med J* 1999;**16**:342–4.
- 9 **Royal College of Radiologists**. *Making the best use of a department of clinical radiology guidelines for doctors*, 5th ed. London: Royal College of Radiologists, 2003.
- 10 **Stiel I**, Wells G. Methodologic standards for the development of clinical decision rules in emergency medicine. *Ann Emerg Med* 1999;**33**:437–47.

## CORRECTION

doi: 10.1136/emj.2005.30916corr1

In the images in Emergency Medicine paper published in the March issue of EMJ (*Emerg Med J* 2006;**23**:239) the co-authors were omitted from the author list. The correct author listing is T Moutray, S Nabili, JA Sharkey. The journal apologises for this error.