



## CUH Trauma Assessment Clinic (TAC)



Cork Emergency Medicine

<http://EMed.ie>

### What is the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

CUH Trauma Assessment Clinic (TAC) is a safe and fast process for assessing specified injuries which will determine if there is a need for you to attend an Orthopaedic Fracture Clinic. In many cases, there is no requirement for patients to attend a Fracture Clinic.

### When does the Trauma Assessment Clinic Take Place?

The TAC takes place every Wednesday morning.

### Where does the Trauma Assessment Clinic Take Place?

The TAC takes place in one of the consulting/examination rooms within CUH Fracture Clinic.

### Who is present at the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist and Nurse.

### Do I need to attend the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

No – you do not need to attend the TAC

### What happens at the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

The Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon will review your x-ray images and your Emergency Department notes, and will make a decision in relation to your follow-up care.

### What Outcomes can I expect?

You may be discharged from the hospital, you may require a follow-up review at a Fracture Clinic or you may require a physiotherapy appointment.

### How will I find out the outcome of the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

You will be contacted via telephone after the clinic by either the Clinical Specialist Physiotherapist or the Nurse who were in attendance at the TAC. You will receive this between 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday.

### How can I contact the Trauma Assessment Clinic?

You can contact the TAC telephone line on 087-087-1008967 between 2.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Should you have any concerns in relation to your injury, please attend your GP or local Emergency Department.

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If you are concerned, please contact the Emergency Department you first attended:

**Mercy University Hospital**  
(021) 230 5011

**M-UCC at SMHC (St. Mary's Health Campus)**  
(021) 4926900

**CUH**  
(021) 4920200

**Local Injury Unit Mallow General Hospital**  
(022) 58506

**Bantry General Hospital**  
(027) 52900





## CUH TAC – Little metacarpal fracture



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### Advice & Information in relation to: Little Metacarpal Fracture

- You have broken a bone in your hand, below the knuckle of you little finger.
- These types of breaks usually heal well.
- Your hand may be sore for 3-6 weeks. Painkillers may help with the soreness.
- Your little finger and ring finger will be strapped together to support the finger while the bone is healing. You should keep moving your other fingers and wrist to prevent stiffness. You can continue to use your hand for light activities such as feeding, drinking and dressing.
- You can remove the strapping after 1 week and start to use the hand normally as comfort allows. There may be some stiffness in the hand at first, but this should improve with time and movement. It may take 6 weeks before the hand returns to normal.
- You can return to full activities when you can make a full fist and fully straighten your finger without pain.
- As the bone heals, a lump may form at the break site and sometimes the knuckle may not be as prominent. This is normal and may not change, even when the bone has healed.



Should you have any worries or concerns following discharge from Cork University Hospital, please contact the Trauma Assessment Clinic on 087-1008967 on Tuesday between 2.00 p.m – 4.00 p.m.

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