

Treatment for Finger-Bending Disease May Be ‘Gamechanger’

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Clinical trials conducted at the University of Oxford and Edinburgh have shown that a drug used to treat rheumatoid arthritis is effective in the initial treatment of Dupuytren’s disease. The disease is a localized inflammatory disease that occurs when immune cells in the palm of the hand stimulate the production of fibrotic scar tissue, which in severe cases causes several fingers of the hand to remain constantly bent. Treatment methods include needles and excision, but these require waiting for severe disease to occur and carry the risk of recurrence. Therefore, some patients want their finger removed. The new treatment is expected to be useful in the early stages of the disease and in preventing recurrence after surgery.

References

- [1] I. Sample, “Treatment for Finger-Bending Disease May Be ‘Gamechanger’” The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/science/2022/may/05/dupuytren-disease-hand-finger-bending-treatment-clinical-trial-oxford-university> (accessed May. 6, 2022).