



Keith Smart

OptiMeth-CRPS

Complex Regional Pain Syndrome (rare disorders)

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Complex regional pain syndrome (CRPS) is a rare but complicated painful and disabling condition that can badly impact upon sufferers' health and quality of life.

Treatment of CRPS can take many forms and may include rehabilitation and pain management. However we still don't know what the best treatment approach for CRPS is and so providing effective healthcare for people living with CRPS is really challenging. In the absence of good quality evidence to guide treatment, healthcare professionals face making treatment decisions in an 'evidence vacuum'.

There is an urgent need to consider and find solutions to the problem of how research studies and clinical trials can best test the effectiveness of new and existing treatments for rare conditions, like CRPS.

An international group of CRPS, rare disease and clinical trial experts will now work together to discuss and provide guidance on how we can best design research clinical trials that assess the effectiveness of different treatments for people living with CRPS. By doing this, we hope to improve how clinical trials are done and provide better quality evidence about the effectiveness of these different treatments for CRPS, and therefore fill the evidence void.

