

# The SOS Trial is running in this Unit

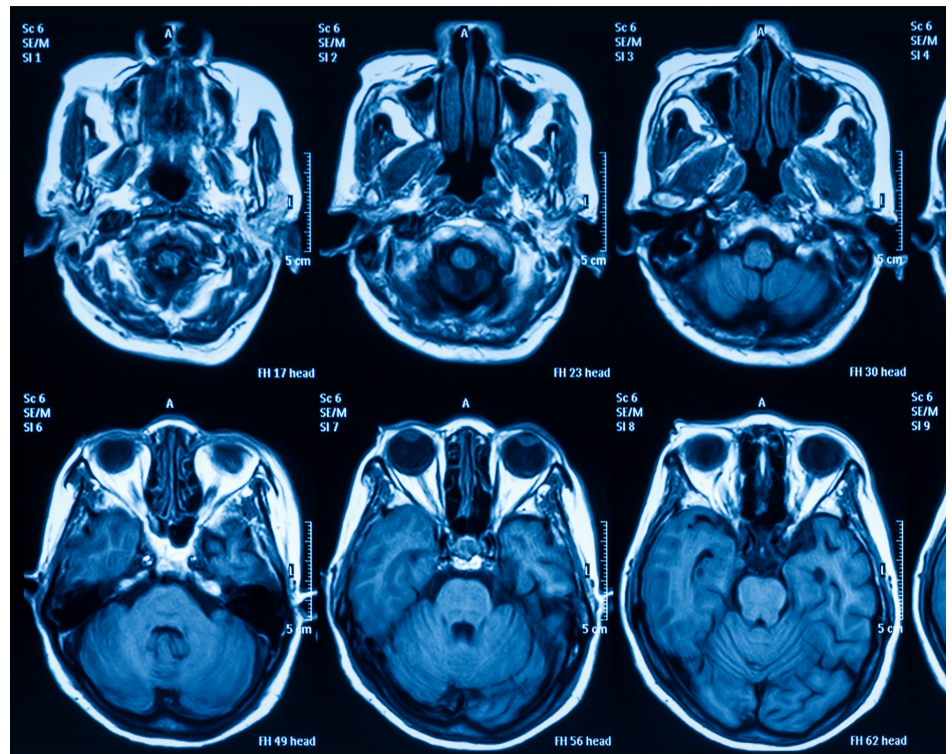
## Comparing two treatments for patients with a brain injury

When someone suffers a very severe brain injury the brain often swells. If this swelling is not treated then the pressure in the skull can get too high, which compresses the brain and causes further damage.

The two drugs that are commonly used to treat brain swelling are

A salty solution (hypertonic saline) and a sugary solution (mannitol)

However doctors do not yet know which treatment is better for patients



The SOS trial is being conducted to compare how effective the salty and sugary solutions are for lowering the pressure in the brain and helping patients to recover.

Half of the patients in the trial will receive the salty solution and half will receive the sugary solution. The results will be compared to see which is best.

This trial is being organised by University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Trust and Warwick Clinical Trials Unit.

The trial is being funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Programme.

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If you would like further information about the trial, please contact:

[local PI contact details]