



Supporting Information

Supplementary results

**This appendix was part of the submitted manuscript and has been peer reviewed.
It is posted as supplied by the authors.**

Appendix to: Wong A, McNulty R, Hodgson SE, Gunja N, Graudins A. Early cessation of acetylcysteine treatment after paracetamol overdose (NACSTOP 2): a non-inferiority randomised controlled trial. *Med J Aust* 2026; doi: 10.5694/mja2.70114.

Supplementary results

Table 1. People excluded from the trial groups because of 12-hour blood test results

Characteristic	Paracetamol > 20 mg/L (132 µmol/L)	ALT > 40 IU/L	Paracetamol > 20 mg/L AND ALT > 40 IU/L
Participants	7	5	2
Age (years), median (IQR)	18 (16–27)	18 (14–30)	24 (23–24)
Sex (women)	5	5	2
Initial paracetamol concentration (mg/L), range	117 to 273	37 to 274	80 to 182
12-hour paracetamol concentration (mg/L), range	20 to 47	1 to 5	101 to 111
12-hour ALT (IU/L), range	9 to 36	40 to 553	54 to 134
ALT difference between initial and 12-hour assessments (IU/L), median (IQR)	0 (–1 to 0)	27 (22–290)	63 (15–111)
Peak ALT (IU/L), range	9 to 33	55 to 747	54 to 134
Peak INR > 2	0	0	0
Hepatic injury	0	2	0
Adverse reaction to acetylcysteine	0	one (rash)	0
Hepatotoxicity (ALT > 1000 IU/L)	0	0	0
Deaths	0	0	0

IQR = interquartile range, ALT = alanine aminotransferase, INR= international normalized ratio.

Consort checklist for the NACSTOP 2 trial

Note: The page numbers in this checklist refer to the submitted manuscript, not to the published article or its Supporting Information file

Section/topic	No	CONSORT 2025 checklist item description	Reported on page no.
Title and abstract			
Title and structured abstract	1a	Identification as a randomised trial	1
	1b	Structured summary of the trial design, methods, results, and conclusions	1
Open science			
Trial registration	2	Name of trial registry, identifying number (with URL) and date of registration	2
Protocol and statistical analysis plan	3	Where the trial protocol and statistical analysis plan can be accessed	Attached
Data sharing	4	Where and how the individual de-identified participant data (including data dictionary), statistical code and any other materials can be accessed	7
Funding and conflicts of interest	5a	Sources of funding and other support (eg, supply of drugs), and role of funders in the design, conduct, analysis and reporting of the trial	12
	5b	Financial and other conflicts of interest of the manuscript authors	12
Introduction			
Background and rationale	6	Scientific background and rationale	3
Objectives	7	Specific objectives related to benefits and harms	3
Methods			
Patient and public involvement	8	Details of patient or public involvement in the design, conduct and reporting of the trial	4
Trial design	9	Description of trial design including type of trial (eg, parallel group, crossover), allocation ratio, and framework (eg, superiority, equivalence, non-inferiority, exploratory)	4
Changes to trial protocol	10	Important changes to the trial after it commenced including any outcomes or analyses that were not prespecified, with reason	7
Trial setting	11	Settings (eg, community, hospital) and locations (eg, countries, sites) where the trial was conducted	4
Eligibility criteria	12a	Eligibility criteria for participants	4
	12b	If applicable, eligibility criteria for sites and for individuals delivering the interventions (eg, surgeons, physiotherapists)	N/A
Intervention and comparator	13	Intervention and comparator with sufficient details to allow replication. If relevant, where additional materials describing the intervention and comparator (eg, intervention manual) can be accessed	6
Outcomes	14	Prespecified primary and secondary outcomes, including the specific measurement variable (eg, systolic blood pressure), analysis metric (eg, change from baseline, final value, time to event), method of aggregation (eg, median, proportion), and time point for each outcome	6-7
Harms	15	How harms were defined and assessed (eg, systematically, non-systematically)	7
Sample size	16a	How sample size was determined, including all assumptions supporting the sample size calculation	7
	16b	Explanation of any interim analyses and stopping guidelines	6
Randomisation:			
Sequence generation	17a	Who generated the random allocation sequence and the method used	
	17b	Type of randomisation and details of any restriction (eg, stratification, blocking and block size)	5
Allocation concealment mechanism	18	Mechanism used to implement the random allocation sequence (eg, central computer/telephone; sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed containers), describing any steps to conceal the sequence until interventions were assigned	5
Implementation	19	Whether the personnel who enrolled and those who assigned participants to the interventions had access to the random allocation sequence	5
Blinding	20a	Who was blinded after assignment to interventions (eg, participants, care providers, outcome assessors, data analysts)	5
	20b	If blinded, how blinding was achieved and description of the similarity of interventions	5
Statistical methods	21a	Statistical methods used to compare groups for primary and secondary outcomes, including harms	7
	21b	Definition of who is included in each analysis (eg, all randomised participants), and in which group	7
	21c	How missing data were handled in the analysis	7

	21d	Methods for any additional analyses (eg, subgroup and sensitivity analyses), distinguishing prespecified from post hoc	7
Results			
Participant flow, including flow diagram	22a	For each group, the numbers of participants who were randomly assigned, received intended intervention, and were analysed for the primary outcome	8
	22b	For each group, losses and exclusions after randomisation, together with reasons	8
Recruitment	23a	Dates defining the periods of recruitment and follow-up for outcomes of benefits and harms	8
	23b	If relevant, why the trial ended or was stopped	N/A
Intervention and comparator delivery	24a	Intervention and comparator as they were actually administered (eg, where appropriate, who delivered the intervention/comparator, how participants adhered, whether they were delivered as intended (fidelity))	8
	24b	Concomitant care received during the trial for each group	8
Baseline data	25	A table showing baseline demographic and clinical characteristics for each group	Table document
Numbers analysed, outcomes and estimation	26	For each primary and secondary outcome, by group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● the number of participants included in the analysis ● the number of participants with available data at the outcome time point ● result for each group, and the estimated effect size and its precision (such as 95% confidence interval) ● for binary outcomes, presentation of both absolute and relative effect size 	8
Harms	27	All harms or unintended events in each group	9
Ancillary analyses	28	Any other analyses performed, including subgroup and sensitivity analyses, distinguishing pre-specified from post hoc	9
Discussion			
Interpretation	29	Interpretation consistent with results, balancing benefits and harms, and considering other relevant evidence	10
Limitations	30	Trial limitations, addressing sources of potential bias, imprecision, generalisability, and, if relevant, multiplicity of analyses	12