0-4’s emergency hospital admissions / injuries briefing
Poole Children’s Centres

This briefing note pulls together data on A&E attendances and Emergency Hospital Admissions for 0-4’s for 2013/14, and data on child injuries provided by Public Health England. Publically available data from ChiMat\(^1\) is also presented.

**A&E Attendances**

This data refers to all 0-4’s who have attended A&E for various reasons in 2013/14; however, not all necessarily required admission to hospital for treatment. The rates of children attending A&E are similar to the Wessex\(^2\) average in Old Town and Rossmore.

**Figure 1: A&E Attendances by Children’s Centre**

![](chart.png)

**Emergency Hospital Admissions by Children’s Centre**

Figure 2 shows the rate of emergency hospital admissions for children aged 0-4 by Children’s Centre area. The highest rates were seen in Rossmore (230.8 per 1000), Old Town (208.8 per 1000) and Ted Webster (202.5 per 1000). The rates for these 3 areas, plus Canford Heath, are significantly above the Wessex (13/14) and England (12/13)\(^2\) rates.

Figure 3 shows that since 2010/11 the rate of emergency admissions for 0-4’s in Poole has worsened slightly, and in 2012/13 was significantly above the England rate.

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1. Child and Maternal Health Observatory (http://www.chimat.org.uk/)
2. England rates for 13/14 not currently available.
Figure 2: Rate of emergency admissions by Children’s Centre

![Rate of 0-4 Emergency Admissions 2013/14: Poole Children’s Centres](image)

Source: Hospital Episode Statistics, supplied by NHS South CSU & ONS Mid Year Estimates 2013 for LSOAs

Figure 3: Trends in national and local emergency admissions

![Trends in national and local emergency admissions](image)

Source: Hospital Episode Statistics, supplied by CHIMAT
Hospital Admissions due to injuries

Locally, the rate of emergency hospital admissions for unintentional and deliberate injuries for Poole is significantly higher than the England average (Figure 4).

Figure 4: Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries in children (0-4).

In June 2014 Public Health England (PHE) published 'Reducing unintentional injuries in and around the home among children under five years'. A workshop was held focusing on Unintentional injuries to children due to concern over admission rates in the Wessex area.

Nationally, unintentional injuries in and around the home are a major cause of death and disability among children under 5. An average of 62 children died each year between 2008 and 2012. These injuries results in an estimated 452,200 visits to A&E departments and approximately 40,000 emergency hospital admissions among children of this age each year. The majority of these injuries are preventable.\(^3\)

Research into the types of injuries highlighted the following priorities for under 5’s\(^3\):

- Choking, suffocation and strangulation
- Falls
- Poisoning
- Burns and Scalds
- Drowning

Looking at the types of injuries experienced by 0-4’s (unintentional or deliberate) by gender shows a similar picture for Wessex. For both males and females the most common injury type is ‘falls’, followed by ‘other accidents or adverse event’\(^4\) (Figure 5).

\(^3\) Reducing unintentional injuries in and around the home among children under five years, 2014, Public Health England

\(^4\) This category includes injuries such as fractures, inhalations and superficial injuries to limbs.
However, differences become apparent in older age groups. At age 5-14, the percentage of falls in males (46.6%) is higher than females (37.9%). Traffic accidents also begin to feature more in this age range (14.6% males, 11.1% females). Intentional self-poisoning is an issue for females in this age range (13.4% females, 1.1% males).

Figure 5: Wessex – Hospital admissions for accidental and intentional injury

Data is available at Local Authority Level for unintentional injuries in Under 5’s (Table 1). The count of emergency hospital admissions is shown in brackets. Counts below 6 have been suppressed and are marked with *. This data is based on Hospital Episode Statistics and was accessed from the National Child and Maternal Intelligence Network (ChiMat) on 13/04/2015.

The data shows that, for under 5’s in Poole, the highest rates of emergency admissions for unintentional injuries were for falls from furniture and poisoning from medicines. The rate of poisoning from medicines in Poole is significantly higher than the rate for England. The rate of injuries from inhalation of food or vomit is also higher, although numbers of cases are small.

Table 1: Emergency Hospital Admissions for unintentional injuries (0-4 years), rate per 100,000, 5 year pooled data 2008/09 – 2012/13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Emergency Hospital Admissions, Rate per 100,000, 2008/09 - 2012/13 (count)</th>
<th>England</th>
<th>Poole</th>
<th>Comparison to England</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Suffocaiton and Strangulation</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>&lt;14.4 (*)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhalation of food or vomit</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>48.1 (20)</td>
<td>Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Falls from furniture</td>
<td>149.2</td>
<td>175.4 (73)</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poisoning from medicines</td>
<td>99.4</td>
<td>144.2 (60)</td>
<td>Higher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with hot tap-water</td>
<td>6.8</td>
<td>&lt;14.4 (*)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact with hot liquids e.g. drinks / food / fat / cooking oil / other hot fluids</td>
<td>38.4</td>
<td>43.2 (18)</td>
<td>Similar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drowning in the bath</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0.0 (0)</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

National research from the Public Health England report found that furniture related falls decrease with age, with falls from beds being the highest in under one’s. Poisoning from medicines includes common painkillers.
Further Information and Resources:

Public Health England – Reducing unintentional injuries in and around the home among children under five years: http://www.chimat.org.uk/earlyyears/injuries

National Child and Maternal Health Intelligence Network: http://atlas.chimat.org.uk/IAS/profiles/profile?profileId=56&geoTypeId=

Unintentional Injury reports for Local Authorities: http://www.chimat.org.uk/earlyyears/injuries

Child Accident Prevention Trust: http://www.capt.org.uk/resources

University of Nottingham Injury Prevention Briefing: Preventing unintentional injuries to under 5’s: a guide for practitioners. Covers the prevention of falls, scalds, fire related injuries and poisonings http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/injuryresearch/projects/kcs/index.aspx

Royal Society for the prevention of accidents: http://www.rospa.com/

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