

Paediatric trauma - A Scottish perspective

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AIM

In 2013 a report from the Quality Framework for Major Trauma Service to the National Planning forum of the Scottish Government outlined possible ways to enhance existing major trauma services for all ages in Scotland. It stated that mandatory prospective collection of paediatric trauma data was essential to permit accurate planning of paediatric trauma services. A specific component of STAG (Scottish Trauma Audit Group) was created to focus on paediatric trauma. The first year's data is now available from a single centre pilot.

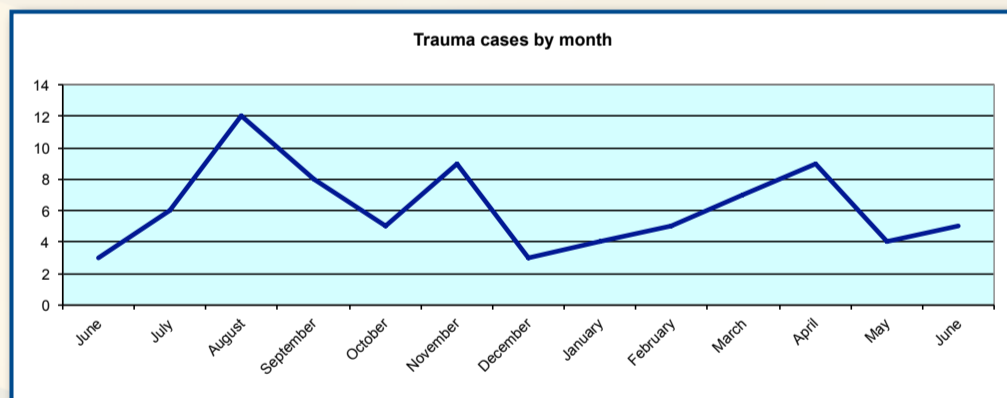
METHOD

All trauma patients attending Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow between June 2015-June 2016 who fulfil both the length of stay criteria (3 or more days) AND injury criteria (as per STAG¹).

RESULTS

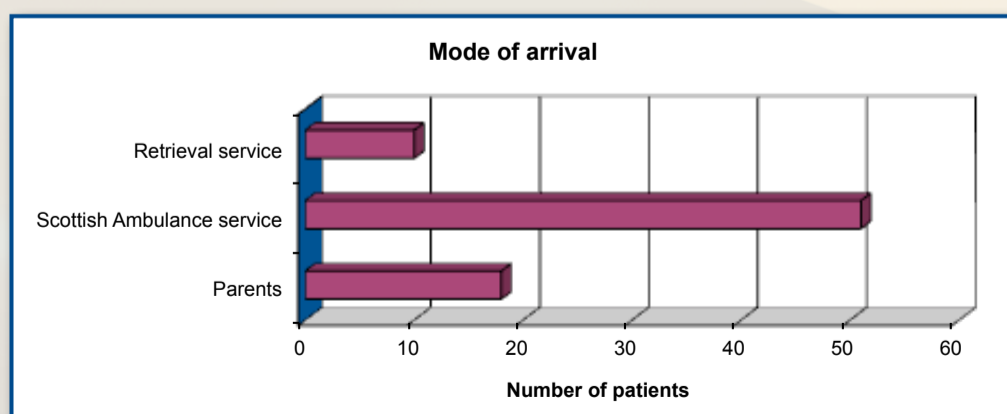
79 cases met STAG entry criteria with a mean age of 7.4 years and a male predominance of 3:1. Figure 1 shows presentations by month.

Figure 1



All initial presentations arrived between the hours of 8am and midnight with three quarters arriving by ambulance Figure 2.

Figure 2



65% of patients presented directly to RHC and the remaining 35% were transferred from another hospital. All de-novo presentations had consultant led reception. 43% of total cases were unheralded prior to arrival in ED.

Figure 3

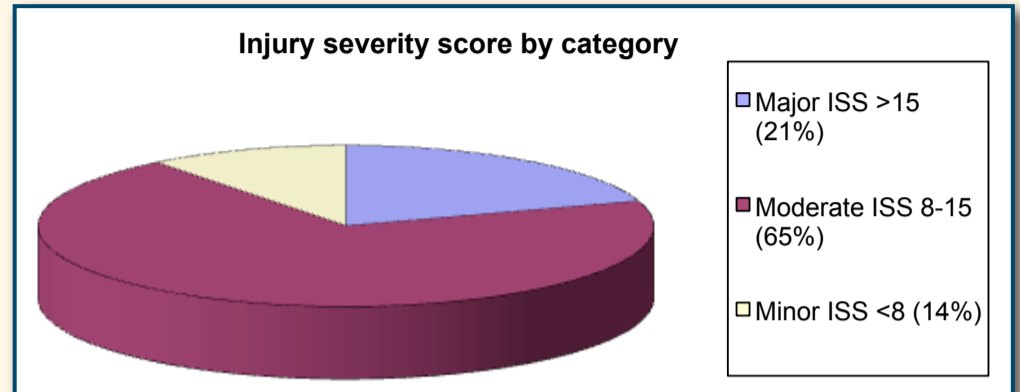
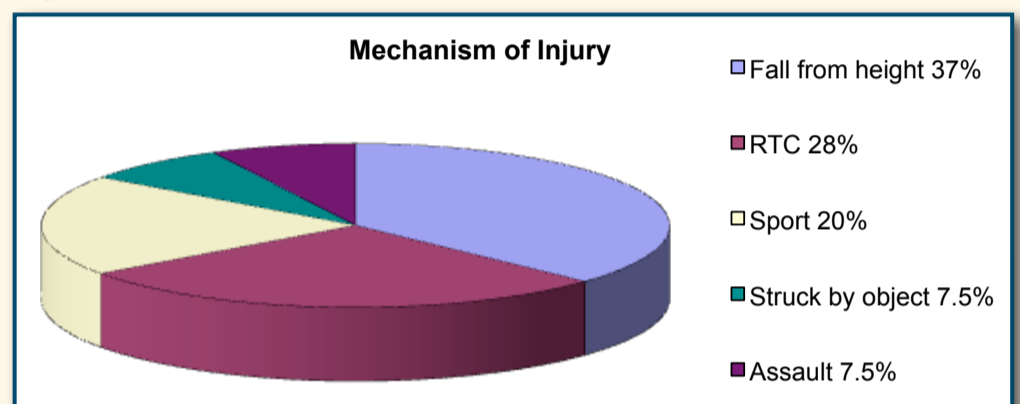


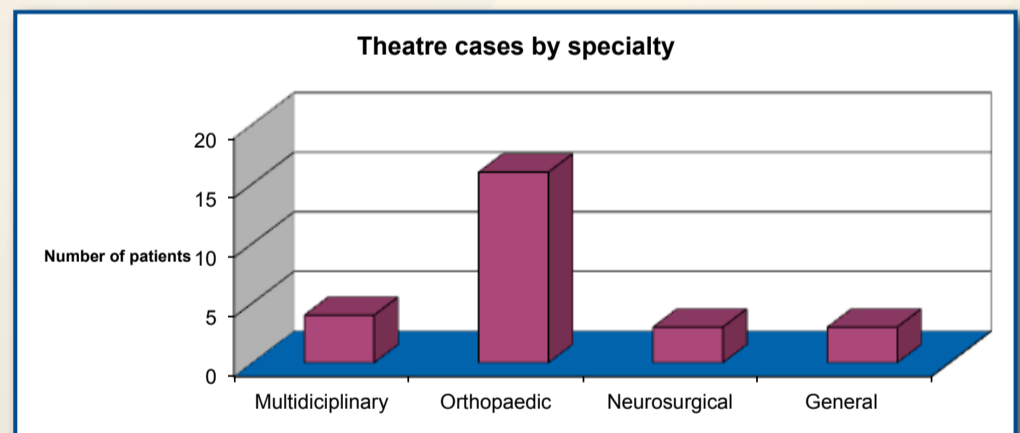
Figure 4



63% of cases had a CT and mean time to CT scan in RHC was 96 minutes.

40% of cases were taken to theatre Figure 5.

Figure 5



Length of stay ranged from 3 to 30+ days, with a mean of 9.3 days. **All patients were alive at 30 days.**

18% underwent a child protection investigation as per local policy with a proven NAI rate of 8% (all of these were male under 2yrs of age).

SUMMARY

This data identified local improvement strategies such as improved trauma documentation and protocols to improve time to CT. There are plans for national roll out of paediatric data collection as soon as feasible via the electronic STAG system.

Reference

1 - STAG entry criteria available from <http://www.stag.scot.nhs.uk>

Data courtesy of Scottish Trauma Audit Group (STAG)