



Publication Summary

Scottish Trauma Audit Group

Audit of Trauma management in Scotland 2013 - reporting on 2012

Publication date – 10th September 2013

About this Release

This report from the Scottish Trauma Audit group presents information for 5,041 patients who were admitted to hospital for at least three days or who died as a result of trauma in 2012. Demographic data are presented along with information about type and severity of trauma, the patient journey through the healthcare system and outcome.

Key Points

- In 2012, a total of 19 hospitals submitted data to STAG on 5041 patients.
- The age and gender distribution of these patients is broadly comparable with 2011.
- The proportion of patients suffering major trauma has not altered.
- The proportion of penetrating trauma has fallen again this year (3%).
- There is evidence to suggest that alcohol is directly associated with 1 in 5 incidents of minor and moderate trauma, rising to 1 in 3 of all major traumas cases recorded in Scotland in 2012.
- The majority of trauma patients (79%) arrive by ambulance. This illustrates the importance of database linkage with the SAS and further enhancement of governance links between services.
- Significant recent developments in aero medical retrieval services have occurred which is reflected in the increasing number of major trauma patient's arriving by air (7%).
- Almost 70% of major trauma patients are attended by consultants within the Emergency Department compared with 60% in 2011.

- In 2012, 70% of major trauma was initially triaged to the resuscitation room (resus).
- There is also further indication that patients with physiological derangement are being triaged to the resuscitation room with the provision of an associated higher dependency of care (85% of patients with any physiological compromise were triaged to resus, compared with 81% in 2011).
- 30% of major trauma patients underwent transfer to another hospital in 2012.
- The median age of the patients who died during 2012 has also increased to 74 years which compares with 70 years and 59 years for 2011 and 1992-2002 respectively.
- Any physiological compromise in the trauma patient is associated with a reduction in survival from 98% to 77%.
- A total of 85% of major trauma victims survived, which compares favourably to 2011 (83%) and 1992-2002 (75%).
- There are two excess survivors per 100 trauma patients entered into the STAG database, which shows an improvement trend on 2011, as well as on historical data.
- Evidence has been provided from participating sites confirming detailed local review for patients highlighted by the STAG Quality Indicators. This demonstrates that the use of high quality national audit data for quality improvement purposes continues.

Background

The aim of the Scottish Trauma Audit Group is to improve the management of seriously injured patients through measurement, comparison and feedback. Data are collected by dedicated Local Audit Coordinators based at 19 hospitals throughout mainland Scotland. One of the cornerstones of the audit is the rapid and clinically useful feedback that Local Audit Coordinators are able to provide to their Emergency Departments.

The STAG Trauma audit is set in the context of NHS Scotland's Quality Strategy and an agenda of quality improvement across the 'whole system', supported by the work of the Scottish Patient Safety Programme. These frameworks are underpinned by the pillars of measurability and robust governance. The STAG Trauma Audit has a central role to play through the provision and use of information that is owned and trusted by the clinical teams involved.

Further information is available on the STAG website (www.stag.scot.nhs.uk).

About ISD

Scotland has some of the best health service data in the world combining high quality, consistency, national coverage and the ability to link data to allow patient based analysis and follow up. Information Services Division (ISD) is a business operating unit of NHS National Services Scotland - and has been in existence for over 40 years. We are an essential support service to NHSScotland and the Scottish Government Health Department and others, responsive to the needs of NHSScotland as the delivery of health and social care evolves. www.isdscotland.org/

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [full report](#)  on the STAG website or on the [ISD website](#).

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