

SEVERELY INJURED PATIENT STUDY

National Confidential Enquiry into Patient Outcome and Death (NCEPOD)

AMBULANCE TRUST ORGANISATIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE

CONFIDENTIAL

Name of Ambulance Trust: _____

Who completed this questionnaire?

Name: _____

Position: _____

What is this study about?

NCEPOD will be collecting data on all severely injured patients (Injury Severity Score, ISS \geq 16) that attend Accident and Emergency departments between 1st February 2006 and 30th April 2006 inclusive. The study aims to look at the process of care of severely injured patients at an organisational and clinical level. Data will be collected from all hospitals with an Accident and Emergency department in the National Health Service in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, public hospitals in the Isle of Man, Jersey and Guernsey and Defence Secondary Care Agency Hospitals.

For the first time, ambulance trusts will be directly involved in this study, allowing a complete picture of care from the scene of the trauma through the first 72 hours to be obtained.

Who should complete this questionnaire?

Each ambulance trust will be required to complete an organisational questionnaire. If you do not feel able to complete this questionnaire, please pass it on to the most appropriate person.

Please return the questionnaire in the stamped addressed envelope provided.

How to complete this questionnaire

This form will be electronically scanned. Please use a black or blue pen. Please complete all sections either in block capitals or a bold cross inside the box provided e.g.

Does your trust have access to medical support?

Yes No

If you make a mistake, please "black-out" the box and re-enter the correct information e.g.

Does your trust have access to medical support?

Yes No

Unless indicated, please cross only one box per question.

Free space is provided on page 5 for your comments.

Questions or help

If you have any queries about the study or this questionnaire, please contact NCEPOD:
severelyinjuredpatient@ncepod.org.uk
 or Tel: 020 7920 0999

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire.

A – PATIENT AND STAFF NUMBERS

1 How many emergency responses were there in your trust in the financial year ^(def) 2004-05?
 Emergency responses ^(def)

2 How many emergency patients were transported by your trust in the financial year 2004-05?
 Patients transported

3 Please indicate trust staff numbers on 01/02/06

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | Emergency care practitioners |
| <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | Paramedics |
| <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | Ambulance technicians |
| <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> | First responders |

4 Please indicate percentage response rates for the financial year 2004-05:

Category A ^(def) calls within 8 minutes . %
 Category A calls within 19 minutes . %
 Category B ^(def) calls within 19 minutes . %

B - RESOURCES AND EQUIPMENT

5 a What ambulance resources would normally be sent to a road traffic collision or other trauma event?

ANSWERS MAY BE MULTIPLE

- 1 First responder ^(def)
- 2 Single paramedic response unit ^(def)
- 3 Paramedic crewed ambulance ^(def)
- 4 Technician crewed ambulance ^(def)
- 5 Other, please specify _____

b Comments

6 Does the trust have access to an air ambulance for:

| | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a emergency responses? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| b critical care transfers? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

c Comments

7 a i Are paramedics in your service trained in Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee (4th Edition) guidelines¹, Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or equivalent?

Yes

No

ii If yes, approximately what percentage have received this training?

%

b Are paramedics trained in a separate paediatric module?

Yes

No

c Comments

8 Please indicate what equipment would be available at the scene of an accident

1 Equipment for administering 100% oxygen therapy

3 Self inflating bag and reservoir

5 Automatic oxygen powered ventilator

7 Advanced airway and endotracheal intubation equipment

9 Powered suction device

11 Spinal board

13 Scoop type stretcher

15 Defibrillator

17 Fluid warmer

19 Vacuum mattress

21 Nasopharyngeal mask airways

23 Interosseous needles

25 Other, please specify

2 Box splints

4 Non-invasive blood pressure monitoring

6 Burns dressings

8 Intravenous fluids

10 Opiate analgesia

12 Pulse oximetry

14 ECG

16 Capnography

18 Full range of cervical adult and paediatric collars

20 Laryngeal mask airways (LMAs)

22 Traction splint

24 Paediatric probes for pulse oximetry

9 a Is the equipment that travels with the patient standardised in your ambulance vehicles and response units?

Yes

No

b i If yes, is formal training in the use of all of this equipment undertaken by staff members?

Yes

No

ii If yes, approximately what percentage of staff have completed this training?

%

c Comments

C - PROTOCOLS

10 a Is there an agreed protocol for pre-alerting the hospital of a severely injured patient?

Yes

No

b If yes, what method is used?

1 By radio directly to the A&E department on "through talk"

2 By radio via a relayed message from the crew through the ambulance dispatcher

3 By mobile phone directly to the red phone in the A&E department

4 Other, please specify _____

c Please detail content of the pre-alert message

11 Is there an agreed hospital bypass procedure ^(def) for:

a Patients with severe injuries?

Yes

No

b Paediatric patients?

Yes

No

c Burns patients?

Yes

No

d Patients with head injuries?

Yes

No

D – MEDICAL SUPPORT

12 a Does your trust have access to on site medical support if required?

Yes

No

b i If yes, what levels of medical support are provided?

ANSWERS MAY BE MULTIPLE

1 General Practitioners

2 Hospital teams without airway skills

3 Helicopter medical service

4 Hospitals teams with airway skills

5 British Association for Immediate Care (BASICS) ^(def) doctors without airway skills

6 British Association for Immediate Care (BASICS) doctors with airway skills

7 Other, please specify _____

ii Does this medical support operate 24 hours a day?

Yes

No

iii Does this medical support cover the entire geographical area of the trust?

Yes

No

iv If no, please comment

v Once requested what is the average time for medical support to arrive?

minutes

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

13 Please write clearly any additional comments you may have on the organisation of your trust

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire

Definitions

| TERM | DEFINITION |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Financial Year 2004-05 | The 2004-05 financial year ran from 1 st April 2004 – 31 st March 2005. |
| Emergency response | An emergency call to which an ambulance service response is required. |
| Category A | Life-threatening conditions in which the faster response is likely to be a key element in saving life or improving the outcome. Category A calls take precedence over any other call type. (www.eastanglianambulance.com) |
| Category B | Conditions which need to be attended quickly, but which will not deteriorate or suffer by a slightly slower response. Category B calls would take precedence over any call type except those in category A. (www.eastanglianambulance.com) |
| First responder | A person, trained as a minimum in basic life support and the use of a defibrillator, who attends a potentially life threatening emergency. This response may be the statutory ambulance service or complementary to it. (www.resus.org.uk) |
| Single paramedic response unit | A vehicle, crewed by a single paramedic, capable of providing a fast response to emergencies. |
| Paramedic crewed ambulance | A fully equipped and crewed ambulance, containing at least one paramedic. |
| Technician crewed ambulance | An ambulance crewed by an emergency medical technician, but no paramedic. |
| Bypass procedures | Procedures outlining when a patient may be transported to a hospital other than the closest to the incident. |
| BASICS doctor | A doctor who is a member of the British Association for Immediate Care; a professional association whose members provide care at the scene of major incidents and accidents. |

¹ *Clinical Practice Guidelines: For use in U.K. Ambulance Services.* Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee & The Ambulance Service Association, 2004

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