



WELCOME to the first edition of the DeCon Data Quality Newsletter.

This edition covers the following:

1. Clinical Audit questions requiring additional information
2. Reminder re: Audit Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Clinical Audit questions requiring additional information

During validation of the submitted clinical audit data, the following questions have been identified as likely to be misinterpreted or incorrectly answered by some clinicians:

Clinical Audit Question	Information
4. Age at presentation in years	Do not record 0. If the child is less than 1 year then convert the child's age in months to years to 1 decimal point for example 6 months = 0.5 years.
12. Which scoring system was documented in the clinical record as being used to evaluate the extent of the patient's conscious level?	This relates to the physiological scoring system employed to assess the patient's conscious level within the first four hours of presentation.
14c. Was the GCS (Glasgow Coma Score) documented in the patient's clinical record every 15 minutes if less than or equal to 12 at presentation to hospital?	This question is only relevant if the patient's GCS at presentation is less than or equal to 12. If it is more than 12 at presentation, this question is not relevant so the response is always Not applicable.
14d. Was the GCS documented in the patient's clinical record every hour if greater than 12 at presentation to hospital?	This question is only relevant if the patient's GCS at presentation is more than 12. If it is less than or equal to 12 at presentation, this question is not relevant so the response is always Not applicable.

Reminder re: Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria

Don't forget that the following categories of patients are to be included in the audit: those with decreased conscious level secondary to alcohol intoxication or febrile convulsions.

The following patients should be excluded due to the difficulty in measuring the audit standards adequately:

1. Children who present to hospital with a normal GCS (15) and/or AVPU assessment (Alert) whose condition deteriorates while in hospital.
2. Children who have been transferred from another hospital.

**Keep on
collecting
loads of
data!**