

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

DeCon Multi-site Audit

Newsletter No. 1 (August 2010)



Royal College of
Paediatrics and Child
Health

in partnership with the
National Reyes Syndrome
Foundation, UK

WELCOME to our first newsletter to update you on the DeCon Multi-site Audit.

This is an audit of the guideline: *The Management of a Child with Decreased Conscious Level* produced by the Paediatric Accident and Emergency Research Group in 2005 and endorsed by the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

Announcing the Audit

This newsletter is an update on the Decreased Conscious Level in Children and Young People Multi-site Audit.

Don't forget to register for the audit on the website below, to receive the audit's newsletters and updates.

If you need further information about the audit, please contact :

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OR

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Patient Group: Inclusion / Exclusion criteria

The audit will include the same population covered by the guideline. Children aged 0-18 years admitted with decreased conscious level during the data collection period, who are being reviewed in a hospital setting with the following exceptions:

- infants on a neonatal intensive care unit or special care baby unit who have decreased consciousness level from the moment of birth (unless re-admitted to hospital)
- children with a previously diagnosed condition which is known to be the cause of the decreased conscious level
- children who on a day to day basis score less than 15 on the Glasgow Coma Scale

Performance Indicators

The final list of audit standards are currently being devised by the project's Methods Working Group.

A provisional list is as follows— The percentage of children with decreased conscious level with:

- the presence or absence of recommended features of the clinical history documented in the clinical notes
- their heart rate, respiratory rate, oxygen saturation, temperature, blood pressure recorded at presentation to hospital
- their AVPU assessment or Glasgow coma score at presentation documented in the notes
- the core investigations conducted within at least 1 hour of presentation to hospital
- a working diagnosis within four hours of presentation to hospital
- a management plan in place within four hours of presentation to hospital
- guardian or parental involvement as specified (in the guideline) during the initial resuscitation and management recorded in their clinical notes

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Data Collection

Data collection is anticipated to start 1 November 2010. It will last 12 months and will involve the completion of the following two questionnaires: Service Description and Clinical Audit.

What will you need to do?

- Identify an audit lead and an alternate, who will be the main points of contact between RCPCH and the unit. The audit lead will coordinate data collection and could be a junior doctor, the lead consultant, a member of the local audit department or nursing staff.
- Complete the Service Description questionnaire either in paper format or online and return to the RCPCH.
- Enter all prospective cases of decreased conscious level presenting at the unit who meet the audit criteria into the project's log-book.
- Complete the clinical audit questionnaire of anonymised data for all cases of decreased conscious level via the RCPCH website every month during data collection. A paper-based data collection proforma will also be provided.



What will the RCPCH do?

- Provide a helpline offering advice on best practice regarding data collection.
- Offer each participating unit, a visit by the project manager between the months of September and October to provide training in the audit tools.
- Distribution of Monthly newsletters to all registered units (participating and non-participating) with updates on the progress and results of the audit.
- Distribution of Data quality reports to the audit leads monthly to ensure good data quality assurance.
- Make available the individual and aggregated audit results on the RCPCH website for participating units to view.
- Support participating units to review their findings after six months of data collection where feasible, to identify and address areas where improvement is needed via action planning.
- Acknowledge all participating units and audit leads in the final report and in any peer reviewed publication. College Members will be able to claim CPD points.

NEWS!

Piloting of the Audit Tools will start in the middle of September: We have one pilot site, St Marys Hospital, Paddington at present.

We are aiming to recruit three pilot sites in total. **If you are interested in becoming a pilot site, contact-**
decon@rcpch.ac.uk