

# **Guideline for the management of a child aged 0-18 years with a decreased conscious level**

Appendix K

Contains;

- Areas for audit

Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health

5-11 Theobalds Road, London, WC1X 8SH

The Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health (RCPCH) is a registered charity in England and Wales (1057744) and in Scotland (SC038299).

## Areas for audit

As part of the 2015 update to the Guideline the GDG have reviewed the recommendations from the 2010 audit. The following areas should be audited annually by Trusts as part of regular monitoring of the care provided to children and young people presenting to hospital with a decreased conscious level.

1. Audit documentation of key clinical details in all children presenting to hospital with a decreased conscious level:
  - a. Vomiting before or at presentation
  - b. Headache before or at presentation
  - c. Fever before or at presentation
  - d. Convulsions before or at presentation
  - e. Alternating periods of consciousness
  - f. Trauma
  - g. Ingestion of medications or recreational drugs or alcohol
  - h. Presence of any medications in the child's home
  - i. Duration of symptoms
2. Audit documentation for the following observations in all children presenting to hospital with a decreased conscious level:
  - a. Heart rate
  - b. Respiratory rate
  - c. Oxygen saturation level
  - d. Blood pressure
  - e. Temperature
3. Audit the use of physiological scoring systems, including Glasgow Coma score/modified Glasgow Coma Score (GCS) and AVPU scale, to assess level of consciousness in all children presenting to hospital with a decreased conscious level.
4. Audit the clinical records (including comments on state/general appearance) and observations charts of all children presenting to hospital with a decreased conscious level corresponding to a GCS less than 12, or level V on the AVPU scale, who have GCS measurements performed and documented every 15 minutes until their condition improves.
5. Audit the percentage of children who have their capillary blood glucose taken within 15 minutes of presentation to hospital with a decreased conscious level.
6. Undertake parent/carer survey covering the following areas:
  - a. Percentage of children whose parents /carers were allowed to stay with them during the initial management and resuscitation
  - b. Percentage of children whose parents /carers were informed regarding their child's possible diagnosis and treatment