



The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

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Good care for fitting children in A&E, but RCEM warns against complacency

A new [report](#) published today shows that Emergency Departments across the UK are offering a good standard of care to children having fits.

The report, published today by the [Royal College of Emergency Medicine](#) audited the care of fitting children in A&E departments. A total of 6,491 children presenting with fits to 171 Emergency Departments in the UK were included in the audit.

RCEM President Dr Clifford Mann said "Seizures are the most common reason for a child to need care in the resuscitation room, so this is a great topic for audit. I am keen that we continue to focus on patient experience."

RCEM Chair of Quality in Emergency Care Committee Dr Adrian Boyle added "This does not mean we should be complacent – there is always scope for improvement and this audit has identified specific areas that we can target to achieve this."

The treatment of most children appears to be good, but RCEM encourages A&E clinicians to maintain standards of documentation of treatment and follow-up.

RCEM Chair of Standards & Audit Subcommittee Dr Jay Banerjee said "We have identified that there is no consistent provision of information for parents of patients presenting to the Emergency Department with fits, and have presented a plan to improve this."

"We have identified that there needs to be consistent recording of hypoglycaemia and its treatment to ensure we are not overlooking treating a potentially severe condition."

College audits are widely respected as a benchmark of quality care. The inspectorate bodies of each of the UK nations pay particular regard to both participation and performance in these audits. There is a clear link between audit performance and patient outcomes – a welcome change from many of the process measures we are obliged to undertake.

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Further information

The full report can be downloaded from: www.rcem.ac.uk/Shop-Floor/Clinical%20Audit/Current%20Audits

Excellence in Emergency Care

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About the Royal College of Emergency Medicine

The Royal College of Emergency Medicine is the single authoritative body for Emergency Medicine in the UK. Emergency Medicine is the medical specialty which provides doctors and consultants to A&E departments in the NHS in the UK and other healthcare systems across the world.

The Royal College works to ensure high quality care by setting and monitoring standards of care, and providing expert guidance and advice on policy to relevant bodies on matters relating to Emergency Medicine.

The Royal College has over 5,000 fellows and members, who are doctors and consultants in emergency departments working in the health services in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland and across the world.