



NATIONAL CONFIDENTIAL ENQUIRY HEAD INJURY IN CHILDREN

INFORMATION FOR STAFF

Between the 1st September 2009 and 28th February 2010 CMACE will be collecting information on all children and young people under 15 years old who, as a result of a head injury, are transferred and/or admitted to hospital. Children who die as a result of their injuries will also be included.

During this time staff in the Emergency Department, ward or other inpatient area are asked to:

- ⇒ **Identify all children who meet the inclusion criteria**
- ⇒ **Enter the relevant details on the CMACE log form**

IDENTIFYING CHILDREN TO BE INCLUDED

Please include children up to 15 years old (14 years and 364 days) who:

- **Between 00:00 on the 1st September 09 and 23:59 on the 28th February 2010 have a brain or skull injury (trauma to the head) as a result of blunt or penetrating trauma or acceleration or deceleration force (e.g. road traffic accident, fall) **OR** who have experienced a head injury as part of a pattern of injuries or multi trauma**

AND

- **Fulfill the following length of stay criteria:**
 - Admitted to an area of inpatient care (*regardless of length of stay*) **OR**
 - Died in the hospital, including the Emergency Department **OR**
 - Transferred to other hospital for specialist care or for an ICU/HDU bed **OR**
 - Died at the scene or en route to the receiving hospital **OR**
 - Transferred in to your hospital (*regardless of length of stay*)

EXCLUSIONS: Children who have experienced primarily superficial or facial injuries which are unlikely to be associated with a brain injury (e.g. *isolated or trivial facial (nose, ear, lip etc), scalp or auricular injuries*)

ADMISSION: Occurs when the child is in receipt of treatment or observation in an inpatient area. This includes for example: Short Term Assessment Units (e.g. associated with wards or Emergency Departments; short stay/ambulatory care units; general paediatric ward, PICU or neurosurgical unit. **This may only be for a matter of hours.**

THE LOCAL ENQUIRY COORDINATOR FOR THIS HOSPITAL IS:

The Local Enquiry Coordinator is the person responsible for data collection within the hospital and is the person with whom CMACE will liaise.

As is the case with all of the CMACE projects we realise that the success of each is dependent on staff across all hospitals. We are grateful for the time and commitment that is given to our work and we thank you for your support in this important project.

If you have any other questions about this enquiry, please email headinjury@cmace.org.uk