children from other and mixed ethnic origin. In infants (n=184) there was no significant difference between actual weight and alsg formula calculated weight. Between the age of one to ten years the ERC formula underestimated the weight significantly by a progressively larger amount with advancing years in both Asian and Caucasian children with the Luscombe formula performing best. In the 6–10 year age group the ERC formula underestimated the weight by a mean of 6.6 kg (22.2%, p<0.001) with the alsg and Luscombe formulas performing best. In this age group female Asian children's weight was underestimated most (mean of 9.5kg, 29.1%). In 11–12 year old children the alsg formula fitted well.

**Conclusion** In one to ten year old children the Luscombe formula provided a better weight estimate than alsg and European Resuscitation Council formulas in a multi-ethnic population in the United Kindom.

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## AUDIT OF LEVEL OF TRAINING AND EXPOSURE OF STAFF TO PAEDIATRIC EMERGENCIES IN A PAEDIATRIC HOSPITAL

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**Background** The level of training and exposure to paediatric emergencies may vary between health care individuals within any hospital providing care to children. Various recognised training courses are designed to help all staff achieve and maintain good resuscitation skills and these courses need to be revalidated to ensure high quality of patient care.

**Objectives** To audit the level of training and exposure of staff to paediatric emergencies in a paediatric hospital.

**Methods** All staff (Consultants, Non Consultants Hospital Doctors (NCHDs, and Staff nurses) were asked to fill in an anonymous questionnaire related to their training and exposure to various paediatric emergencies within the previous year.

**Results** 44 questionnaires were completed. 4 Consultants, 12 NCHDs, 28 Nurses. All consultants had attended paediatric emergencies, all had up to date courses. 10/12 (83%) NCHDs had attended paediatric emergencies, 6/12 (50%) had up to date courses.2/12(16%) had not revalidated their training, 4/12 (33%) had no training course.21/28 (75%) nurses had attended paediatric emergencies, 6/28 nurses (21%) had up to date courses.3/28 nurses had not revalidated their training and19/28 nurses (67%) had no training course 0.9/44(20%) of all staff were not exposed to any paediatric emergency, 35/44(80%) of all staff had attended a paediatric emergency, yet 23 (52%) of them had no training course.

**Conclusion** Regular audits reviewing the level of training and exposure of staff to paediatric emergencies are recommended to encourage all staff to maintain and revalidate their training, enabling the provision of high quality of patient care and ensuring patient safety.

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#### PAEDIATRIC HEAD INJURIES: A LONDON TRAUMA CENTRE PERSPECTIVE

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**Aims** Our aim was to determine the demographics, mechanism of injury and immediate outcome of a specific group of paediatric head injury patients: those who triggered 'trauma calls' and were initially managed in the emergency department (ED) resuscitation room due to either abnormal vital signs or a significant mechanism of injury. We also reviewed presentation times to assess the service provision implications.

**Methods** A retrospective review of all paediatric trauma patients managed initially in the resuscitation room over a three-year period. Data were collected from trauma notes and intensive care discharge summaries.

**Results** The total number of patients was 340. Of these 72% were male. The age breakdown was as follows: 31% less than 5 years, 33% aged 5 to 12 years and 35 % adolescent. The most common mechanisms of injury were road traffic accidents (RTA) with an incidence of 55%, and falls (31%). However in the pre-school group falls accounted for 53% of cases whereas in the 5–12 year group the incidence of RTAs was 70%. Assault caused 23% of presentations in the adolescent group.

Regarding admissions, 63% were admitted for overnight observation, 27% required critical care and 0.1% died in the emergency department. Only 7% were discharged home from the ED. Peak presentation occurred from 15:00 to 21:00 hours.

**Conclusions** There are ongoing public health concerns regarding the mechanisms of injury. RTAs remain the leading cause of serious head injury but of note is the high number of pre-school children falling from significant heights at home.

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### RECIDIVE LARYNIGITIS EPISODES AND ITS CORRELATION WITH ALLERGIC CONSTITUTION IN CHILDHOOD

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There is still opacity in aetiology of laryngitis episodes, especially those repeated. Laryngitis can result from exposure to allergens like pollen, dust, smoke and other irritants. The aim of this study is to determine the degree of correlation between repeated laryngitis episodes and allergic component.

Material and Methods In this study were included 561 children with treated laryngitis for the period of 5 years (2006–2011). From them, 104 (18.53%) patients have had medical history about repeated laryngitis episodes, with hospital treatment. The emphasis of our investigation was made on these patients. In addition to other clinical investigations, skin prick tests about allergy predisposition were performed in all of them. Personal and familiar evidence about allergy was assessed, too.

**Results** Positive results from allergologic skin prick tests were confirmed in 53 (50.96%) patients. From them, in correlation with this basic disease, allergic constitution (asthma, allergic dermatitis, and allergic rhinitis) was determined in 39 (73.58%) patients. The most positive allergen causes were: pollens –24(45.28%), Dermatophagoides ptt.-19 (35.84%) patients etc. From those 39 patients with negative results on allergic skin prick tests, 17 (43.58%) had positive anamnesis of personal/familiar allergy, allergic dermatitis in 8, asthma in 6, recidivate broncho-obstructive episodes –5, positive asthma anamnesis -3. Allergy was not evidenced in only 12 (11.53%) patients.

**Conclusion** Repeated laryngitis episodes have high degree of significant correlation with allergic constitution in childhood. Allergy is appeared as very important factor in repeated laryngitis episodes etiology. The underlying cause of repeated laryngitis episodes necessarily have to be diagnosed and treated.

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# THE CHARACTERISTICS AND OUTCOMES OF FOREIGN BODY INGESTION AND ASPIRATION IN CHILDREN DUE TO LODGED THE AERODIGESTIVE TRACT

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**Background and Aim** Injury due to foreign body (FB) aspiration and/or ingestion is a common and serious pediatric emergency. FB injury (FBI) most commonly occurs in children less than six years, and the incidence of FBI has increased in recent years. The aim of the present study was to evaluate and compare the characteristics of FBI due to ingestion and aspiration.

**Methods** Data from who were hospitalized for FB ingestion and/ or aspiration and underwent rigid bronchoscopy and esophagoscopy from 2008–2011 were retrospectively evaluated. FB in the upper aerodigestive tract (ADT) was evaluated with respect to the characteristics of patients, clinical presentation, management strategy, the outcome, and features of FB.

**Results** A total of 192 patients admitted for FB ingestion or aspiration in the pediatric surgery department were evaluated. The mean age was 40.97±35.73 months. The majority of patients were fewer than four years of age. FB were mainly located in the upper esophagus for ingested FB 60.8 %, while for aspiration 43% of FB were in the main right bronchus. A total of four patients died. The hospitalization period of patients admitted for FB aspiration was longer than that of patients with FB ingestion. Surgery was performed in four patients. The most commonly ingested FB were coins, while seeds were the most commonly aspirated.

**Conclusion** Prevention is the key to dealing with FBI. Since the frequency of foreign bodies is higher in under-developed countries, education of parents regarding the dangers and prevention of aspiration and ingestion is important.

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# TIME OF DAY AS A DETERMINANT OF RADIOGRAPHIC IMAGING IN THE EVALUATION OF PEDIATRIC INTUSSUSCEPTION

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**Background** Although ultrasound is often the preferred pediatric imaging study, many institutions lack ultrasound access at night for evaluation of intussusceptions in children. The purpose of this study was to characterize patterns of daytime and nighttime use of radiographic imaging for evaluation of intussusceptions.

**Methods** A retrospective chart review of patients evaluated for intussusceptions from January 2010 to December 2010 was performed to evaluate daytime and nighttime use of radiographic imaging for pediatric patients. Patients were further stratified by time of performance of imaging study into "day" and "night" categories. Differences in clinical characteristics, imaging study, cost, and final diagnosis between daytime and night were analyzed.

**Results** 86 pediatric consults with suspected intussusceptions were performed. Forty (46.5%) consults were performed during the day. During the day, 38 (95%) patients underwent US and 33 (82.5%) had abdominal films. At night, 3 (6.5%) CTs and 39 (84.7%) abdominal films were performed. The positive rate of enemas during the daytime was significant statistically higher than at night (97.6% vs 59.2%, p<0.001). Average daytime cost of initial radiology evaluation was 1159 dollars compared with 3328 dollars at night (p<0.001). In terms of radiation dose, the daytime dose was significantly lower than the those at night (0.63 $\pm$ 0.48 mSv vs 2.06 $\pm$ 1.48 mSv, p<0.001).

**Conclusions** Radiographic imaging at night results in higher average radiation exposure and cost. Twentyfour-hour ultrasound availability would decrease radiation exposure and cost of evaluation of children presenting with intussusceptions.

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SOCIODEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS INFLUENCE THE RISK FOR FEMUR SHAFT FRACTURES IN CHILDREN: A SWEDISH CASE-CONTROL STUDY FROM 1997–2005

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**Objectives** To investigate gender and age differences in sociodemographic risk factors and their relationship with femur shaft fractures and injury mechanisms in children.

**Methods** Population based case-control study. Swedish children (N=1,874), aged 0–14 years, with a femur shaft fracture diagnostic code between 1987–2005 were compared to matched controls (N=18,740). Data were based on record linkage between six Swedish registers. Adjusted Odds Ratios were calculated.

**Results** Parental age < 25 years old increased the risk (25%) for fracture, compared to parents with an average age of 25–37 years. When stratifying for gender and age group, the risk (40%) was only seen in older boys, 7–14 years of age. If parents' total income was among the  $25^{\rm th}$  percentile, the risk (20%) increased, compared to parents with an income in the  $50^{\rm th}$  percentile. The risk (50%) was only seen in older girls living in low-income households. Children with at least one university-educated parent reduced their fracture risk (15%), compared to children whose parents had 10–12 years of education, but this decrease could not be linked to gender and age group.

Family composition, number of siblings, birth order or receiving social welfare did not influence the fracture risk.

Regarding the cause of injury none of the sociodemographic variables influenced the risk equal for boys and girls.

**Conclusions** Sociodemographic differences related to femur shaft fracture rate and cause of injury differ between boys and girls in different age groups. This have implications for parental counselling.

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#### CD 64 AS A DIAGNOSTIC MARKER OF A SERIOUS BACTERIAL INFECTION IN CHILDREN WITH FEVER PRESENTING TO THE EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT

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**Background and Aims** Expression of neutrophile CD64 is elevated in presence of a bacterial infection. Studies on its diagnostic value show good results in adults, and diverse results in neonates and children admitted to the ICU with sepsis. We aimed to determine the diagnostic value of CD64 in children presenting with fever at the emergency department (ED), to detect a serious bacterial infection (SBI).

**Methods** We performed a prospective observational study including children aged 1 month-16 years with fever, who presented to the ED of a large teaching hospital in the Netherlands. Patients were excluded in case of relevant comorbidity. CD64 was determined using flowcytometry. SBI was assessed based on a combination of a positive culture, radiology or consensus diagnosis and included disease course follow up by an inpatient visit or telephonic follow up.

**Results** During 6 months in 2011 we included 208 children of whom CD64 was determined in 137 patients (66%). Preliminary results are based on 137 febrile children, of which 28 (20.4%) with a SBI. The area under the curve of the receiver operator curve to assess SBI was 0.65 (95% CI 0.53–0.77).

**Conclusion** In a sample of febrile children at the ED, we assessed moderate diagnostic value of CD64 as marker of a SBI. Our further analysis on complete sample (estimated n=280) will include diagnostic performance of CD64 for specific bacterial and viral diagnoses.