

MAJOR TRAUMA AUDIT SUMMARY REPORT 2019-2020

The Major Trauma Audit (MTA) was established by the National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) in 2013. This audit focuses on the care of the more severely injured patients in our healthcare system, across 26 trauma receiving hospitals.

WHAT IS MAJOR TRAUMA?

Major trauma is any injury that has the potential to cause prolonged disability or death. There are many causes of major trauma. These injuries can be caused by blunt or penetrating mechanisms such as falls, motor vehicle collisions, stab wounds, and gunshot wounds (World Health Organization, 2018).

HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST FOR FALLS PREVENTION

Falls in the home continue to be the leading cause of Major Trauma in Ireland. Attention to the following details in the home could reduce these accidents and prevent injuries.



IS THE ENTRANCE TO THE HOME SAFE?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** If the footpath is uneven or slippery, or has loose paving stones or trip hazards, it should be fixed or removed.



CAN YOU WALK AROUND THE HOME EASILY?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Ask someone to move furniture or clutter in order to make the rooms/walkways accessible and safe.



ARE THERE RUGS OR TRIP HAZARDS?

✗ **NO:** NO ACTION.

✓ **YES:** Remove rugs or use double-sided tape to make them safe; remove trip hazards.



IS THERE ADEQUATE LIGHTING IN THE WALKWAYS AND ROOMS?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Replace bulbs; suggest placing a lamp in darker areas in order to increase brightness.



ARE THE STAIRS OR STEPS SAFE?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Remove any items on stairs/steps; make sure handrails are safe; fix any loose steps or loose carpet; and make sure lighting is adequate on the stairs.



IS THE KITCHEN SAFE?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Make sure key items are within easy reach; if using a step, make sure that it is in good working order.



IS THE BATHROOM SAFE?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Make sure non-slip mats are available in the bath or shower. If there is difficulty getting into the bath/shower, ensure that grab rails are placed where appropriate.



IS THE BEDROOM SAFE?

✓ **YES:** NO ACTION.

✗ **NO:** Ensure that a lamp or light is within easy reach of the bed. Ensure that the route to the bathroom is clear and easily visible. Remove clutter. Ensure that a walking aid is within easy reach if required.



ARE THERE PETS IN THE HOUSE?

✗ **NO:** NO ACTION.

✓ **YES:** Make sure the pet has a bell on its collar, so as to ensure that its whereabouts are known at all times.

KEY FINDINGS 2019 & 2020



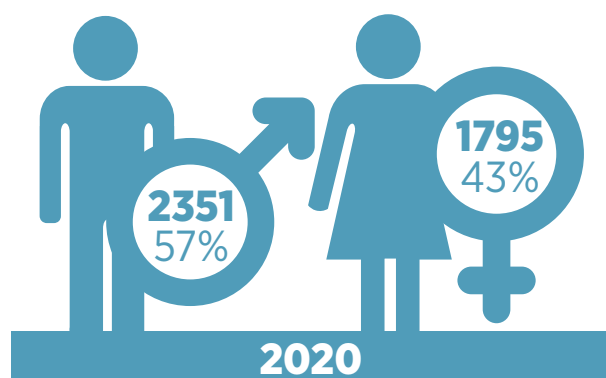
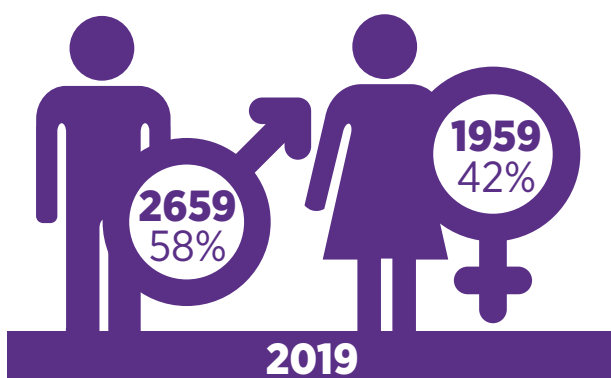
**DATA
COVERAGE**

2019

83%

2020

73%



8764



**PATIENTS RECORDED
2019/2020**

**MEAN
AGE**

2019

**58
YEARS**

2020

**61
YEARS**



**RECORDED
ADMISSIONS
DROPPED BY
10% IN 2020**

MECHANISM OF INJURY



**FALL LESS
THAN 2M**

2019

58%

2020

62%



**ROAD
TRAUMA**

2019

17%

2020

15%



**FROM A
BLOW**

2019

9%

2020

6%



**FALL MORE
THAN 2M**

2019

10%

2020

11%

LOCATION OF INJURY



HOME

2019
48%

2020
56%



PUBLIC AREA
OR ROAD

2019
38%

2020
27%



INSTITUTION

2019
5%

2020
5%



FARM

2019
3%

2020
4%



INDUSTRIAL

2019
2%

2020
3%



34%
ISS>15
IN 2019

35%
ISS>15
IN 2020

ISS = INJURY SEVERITY SCORE

This is a measure of how injured a person is.
ISS>15 indicates severe injury.

RECEIVED BY A TRAUMA TEAM



2019
8%

2020
9%

12%

PRE-ALERT
RATE IN
2019 AND 2020



9

MEDIAN LOS
9 DAYS IN
2019 AND 2020



% of patients with a Glasgow Coma Scale*
score <13 to receive a CT scan within 1 hour

2019

42%

2020

43%



*Glasgow Coma Scale is a measure of the patients
level of consciousness.

60%

DISCHARGED
HOME IN
2019 AND 2020



10%

DISCHARGED
TO REHAB IN
2019 AND 2020



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE FOR TRAUMA SERVICES, HSE

- The National Office for Trauma Services, HSE should continue to work closely with, and support, the MTA by:
 - providing clear definitions so accurate data can be collected
 - using the data from the audit to highlight injury prevention opportunities and to monitor and support the changes in the trauma system

RECOMMENDATIONS TO HOSPITAL MANAGERS, CLINICIANS AND AUDIT COORDINATORS

- Each hospital should have a governance committee who look at the data regularly together and act on any findings

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE NATIONAL OFFICE OF CLINICAL AUDIT

- The National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) will work with the Health Service Executive to develop a strategy for sustainable support for clinical audit in the hospitals.
- The National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) should continue to support each hospital to:
 - establish a committee to look at the data regularly and use it for improvement
 - collect good quality data
 - support and train staff to use the reports issued
- The National Office of Clinical Audit will continue to highlight ways that this data can be used for injury prevention and public awareness by organisations like the Road Safety Authority and the HSE AFFINITY National Falls and Bone Health Project.
- NOCA should also:
 - continue to support research into this group of patients
 - work with Public and Patient Interest (PPI) representatives and groups to use and share safety messages from the audit.

PATIENT AND PUBLIC INTEREST

“The data from this report shows that we each can play a role in preventing life-changing major trauma events by being more aware of hazards and risks to our safety and use it to keep ourselves and our families safe, especially in our homes, workplaces and on the road”.

Naomi Fitzgibbon, Patient and Public Interest Representative, MTA Governance Committee



REFERENCES

World Health Organization (2018) Falls [Internet]. Available from: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs344/en/> [Accessed 23 October 2019].

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FULL REPORT LOG ONTO

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COMMENTS PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EMAIL

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