management strategies, managing complexity and ambiguity, inter-professional relationships and fear of professional consequences. These candidate themes will continue to be developed and refined during the remaining analysis.

Conclusion Restraint decisions take place in the context of high levels of complexity and ambiguity, limited clinical management options and rely on effective communication and collaboration with partner agencies, such as the police. Paramedics are motivated by patient-centred issues including advocacy and improving outcomes, and at times experience tensions with practitioner-centric issues such as fear of adverse professional consequences.

REFERENCE


Conflict of interest None to declare.
Funding None.

Pain and trauma

USING REAL-WORLD DATA TO PREDICT PAIN RECORDING AND PAIN SEVERITY IN THE PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY SETTING – AN OBSERVATIONAL ANALYSIS OF 212,401 EPISODES OF CARE

1R Quinn, 1S Masterson*, 1D Willis, 1D Hennelly, 1C Deasy, 1C O’Donnell. 1National Ambulance Service, Limerick, Ireland; 2University College Cork, Ireland; 3University Hospital Cork, Ireland

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Background Previous studies in the prehospital setting have reported wide variation in the incidence and severity of pain, and that documentation of pain scores is poor. The aim of our study was to investigate and describe the incidence and severity of patient-reported pain that is recorded by pre-hospital emergency care patients in Ireland.

Method We used data from our electronic patient care record (ePCR) repository to perform this retrospective cohort study of all emergency care episodes recorded by National Ambulance Service practitioners during 2020. Descriptive analysis of patient and care episode characteristics and regression analyses for the outcomes pain recorded and severity of pain were performed.

Results Of the 212,401 patient care episodes included, 138,195 (65%) included a pain score (75,445 = no pain; 18,378 = mild pain; 21,451 = moderate pain; 22,921 = severe pain). The likelihood of pain being recorded was most strongly associated with the Glasgow Coma Score, working diagnosis, call location, and patient age. The variables showing strongest association with pain severity were transport outcome, working diagnosis, and patient age. Sensitivity analysis confirmed that all regression models performed better than chance, but that all models were relatively weak at predicting the outcomes.

Conclusion Using a large real-world dataset, we have demonstrated patient and care episode characteristics that are associated with recording and severity of self-reported pain. We have identified actionable improvements that will strengthen the prediction accuracy of routinely collected data and ultimately improve pain management for our patients.

Conflict of interest None to declare.
Funding No specific funding received or sought for this study.

Dispatch and triage

LARGE VESSEL OCCLUSION STROKE IN AN EMERGENCY CALL: A DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF EMERGENCY CALLS FOR THROMBECTOMY CANDIDATES

1R Vuorinen*, 1J Kiili, 1E Alanko, 1H Huhtala, 1J Ollikainen, 2P Setälä, 2S Hoppu. 1Faculty of Medicine and Health Technology, Tampere University, Tampere, Finland; 2Emergency Medical Services, Centre for Prehospital Emergency Care, Department of Emergency, Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine, Tampere University Hospital, Tampere, Finland; 3Faculty of Social Sciences, Tampere University, Tampere, Finland; 4Department of Neurosciences and Rehabilitation, Tampere University Hospital, Tampere, Finland

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Background Large vessel occlusion strokes cause most of the post-stroke disability and mortality. In this study, we aim to find out common words and phrases used in the emergency calls for paramedic-suspected thrombectomy candidates. Also, we wanted to find out how a question about conjugate eye deviation, an indicator of vast cortical ischaemia, arises in the Finnish stroke dispatch protocol.

Method This was a retrospective study with descriptive analysis of emergency calls for patients with paramedic-suspected large vessel occlusion stroke. We listened to the emergency calls for 157 patients transported to a Finnish comprehensive stroke centre.

Results Speech disturbance was the most common symptom brought up in 125 (80%) calls, followed by tripping (n=63, 40%) and facial asymmetry (n=41, 26%). Suspicions of stroke were mentioned by 44 (28%) callers. Inability to speak any words was mentioned in 63 calls (52% of calls with speech disturbance). Otherwise, difficulty to speak was described, for example, as a lisp, mumble or slurred speech. Conjugate eye deviation was definitely heard in 12 emergency calls. Ten of these patients were diagnosed with large vessel occlusion.

Conclusion In the emergency calls for patients with paramedic-suspected large vessel occlusion, typical stroke symptoms were described. The severity of the stroke stood out by the patients’ inability to speak any words or remain standing. It is possible to further develop stroke dispatch protocols to recognise thrombectomy candidates already during an emergency call.

Conflict of interest None.
Funding None.

Cardiac arrest

ABSTRACT WITHDRAWN

Miscellaneous

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS AMONG PREHOSPITAL PROVIDERS DURING AN ONLINE HIGH-FIDELITY SIMULATION – A NOVEL STUDY

1,2,3J Hunter*, 1,2M Porter, 3B Williams. 1Department of Paramedicine, Monash University, Australia; 2Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City, Paramedicine Program; 3Norman Regional Hospital – EMSStat, Oklahoma State University, Emergency Medicine Residency Program; 4EMS Success, Inc

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Background In the growing field of paramedic education, the use of high-fidelity simulation is becoming more common. The purpose of this study was to assess the situational awareness among prehospital providers during an online high-fidelity simulation – a novel study.
Background It has been suggested that prehospital providers need to be situationally aware in order to reduce human error. By reducing human error, patient outcomes may be improved. Research during the COVID19 pandemic has been difficult and while many projects were put on hold, the authors created a novel manner in which to complete this study and measure SA – through online simulation.

Method This was a mixed-methods explanatory sequential study where prehospital providers participated in an online simulation. The situational awareness global assessment technique (SAGAT) was utilized during periodic freezes in the simulation where the participants would answer questions related to the environments of the patient and the scene. Questions were focused on perception, interpretation, and prediction. Following the simulation, participants provided feedback during interviews.

Results The providers did not possess high levels of SA. Overall SA was 45% (p-value, .162), where participants performed best at perception with a steady decline to interpretation and then prediction. Those with higher levels of education did perform better, although this was not statistically significant, (p-value, .09). Those with more experience initially had higher SA but then tended to decrease with more experience (p-value, .24). Participants did feel satisfied with the online simulation and also felt that the simulation and SAGAT were beneficial to their continuing education and improving their care in the field.

Conclusion Prehospital providers are not situationally aware during online simulation. They focused on the surroundings at first, but did not focus as much on the patient. The SAGAT can be utilized in an online format and may possibly enhance overall performance. Further research is needed to determine if higher levels of education and experience play a role inprehospital SA.

Conflict of interest None.

Funding None.

Cardiac arrest

249 THE ASSOCIATION OF COMORBIDITIES AND SURVIVAL AFTER OUT-OF-HOSPITAL CARDIAC ARREST IN DENMARK

1,2,3ST Sødergren*, 1,4SG Møller, 6CT Pedersen, 1,3,5FFolk, 1,2AK Ersbøll. 1Copenhagen University Hospital – Emergency Medical Services Copenhagen, Denmark; 2National Institute of Public Health, University of Southern Denmark, Copenhagen, Denmark; 3Department of Cardiology, Copenhagen University Hospital – Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg, Copenhagen, Denmark; 4Department of Cardiology, Copenhagen University Hospital – Herlev and Gentofte, Hellerup, Denmark; 5Department of Cardiology, Nephrology and Endocrinology – North Zealand, Hilleroed, Denmark

Background An increase has been observed in 30-day survival of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA) in the past 18 years from 4% to 14% in Denmark, but OHCA survival remains low. We investigated how pre-existing comorbidities affected 30-day survival and time-to-death of OHCA patients.

Method This is a retrospective registry-based study with use of nationwide registries. Data on OHCA (2001–2015) were obtained from the Danish Cardiac Arrest Registry, data on the most clinically relevant comorbidities were collected from the Danish National Patient Registry and the Danish National Prescription Registry for up to 10 years prior to their arrest. Data on time-to-death was collected from the Danish Cause of Death Registry. Analysis was performed with use of several generalised linear models.

Results OHCA patients with AMI, ischemic heart disease (IHD), arrhythmia, and heart failure had a 30-day survival of 7.39[6.87;7.95], 5.43[4.90;6.02], 2.87[2.66;3.09], 1.76[1.60;1.93] and 1.51[1.39;1.65], respectively, presented as odds ratios (OR). Patients with the co-existing conditions i) AMI and arrhythmia or ii) arrhythmia and IHD