

Background

To ensure patients are brought quickly to the most appropriate hospital for their injuries, the trauma care system is being re-configured. This will involve major trauma centres for severe injuries and other sites for less severe injuries. The datasets that capture a trauma patient's journey are currently separate.

If they could be joined this would inform important decisions on which hospitals to take patients.



Aims

Inform nationally important policy and practice for trauma care by combining, anonymising and then analysing two currently separated datasets. These are the National Ambulance Service (NAS) electronic Patient Care Record (ePCR), and the Major Trauma Audit (MTA).

Objectives

- (1) Combine MTA and ePCR datasets. The datasets will be pseudonymised. This means any information that could be used to identify an individual will be replaced with a value that does not allow the individual to be directly identified.
- (2) Anonymise the combined dataset. This means it will not be possible to identify any individual in the dataset.
- (3) Analyse the anonymised dataset to explore major trauma incidents in Ireland that can inform pre-hospital service configuration and safe patient management.
- (4) Analyse anonymised dataset to develop a national clinical prediction rule for major trauma in Ireland. This will identify characteristics determining the need to bring patients to a larger major trauma centre or trauma unit.

Data to be processed

The study concerns patient data for the years 2020-2022. This will include demographic information (such as age and sex), incident details (fall/vehicle accident etc.) and clinical observations (blood pressure etc.). The data will not include any patient names.

Steps to exercise data protection rights

Under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) you have the right to access, rectify, erase, restrict or object to processing, and data portability.

If you were a trauma patient during 2020-2022 and wish to withdraw your data from the study, please contact us by [email](#). Please note, once the data is anonymised, it will not be possible to identify you in the dataset. Therefore, we cannot remove you from the dataset.

Should you have any questions on any aspect of the study please contact us by [email](#).

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