

Out-of-Hospital Emergency Medical Service. Detection of Child Abuse

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Abstract

Background: Child Abuse has become a worried trouble in public health. Its detection is difficult and hard because child abuse usually happens in child's home and moreover is committed by relatives

Objective: The aim of this study is to carry out an approximation to ability detection of child abuse by an out of hospital emergency medical service (SUMMA-112)

Methods: Descriptive statistical analysis. Observational study of raw data from the whole pediatric medical histories, diagnostic codes CIE-10 of child abuse, collected from 2008 to 2011.

Results: Prevalence of Child Abuse detected by SUMMA-112 was 0.83%. Male 38.3% (n=41); Female 61.7% (n=66). The most frequent diagnostic code in our survey was emotional mistreatment. On the contrary, in-hospital most frequent diagnostic codes are physical mistreatment and sexual abuse and the lesser diagnostic code detected is the neglect.

CONCLUSIONS: Detection of child abuse is not enough effective yet despite the most number of clinical cases are in children's houses. The making of an appropriate questionnaire and developing skills on the part of professionals, are recommended.

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