Austin Hospital Emergency Department

Research Report 2007

Compiled by

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FOREWORD

There is no need to advise anyone of the escalation in patient numbers that have beset our Emergency Department (ED) during 2007. Clearly, this has placed tremendous pressures on our staff and Austin Health generally. In parallel with this activity, we have continued to expand our research endeavours. In this regard, 2007 saw a number of exciting achievements and a consolidation of our research base for the future.

In previous years, we have had Advanced Medical Science (AMS) students visiting from other departments to undertake data collection for their projects. In the past, collaboration with their departments has been of mutual benefit and has resulted in some excellent publications. In 2007, we opened our own AMS unit and welcomed three of our own students – Jessica Wong, Ramzi Hijazi and Migel Cabalag. Each is now half way through data collection in their project. I would like to express my thanks to our ED staff for their assistance to these students – this has been very much appreciated and greatly facilitates their data collection.

We were to have welcomed the Victorian Poisons Information Centre (VPIC) before the close of 2007. VPIC has previously been located at the Royal Children’s Hospital but has ‘seen the light’ and will be moving to Austin Health as soon as their computer gear is up and running. This move will certainly consolidate our ED’s toxicology interests and expertise.

Over the last year, we have continued to expand our research collaborations. These now include a number of specialty units within Austin Health (General Medicine, Infectious Diseases, Clinical Pharmacology, Microbiology, Pharmacy), a range of Melbourne hospitals (Royal Melbourne, Northern, Box Hill, Casey, Epworth, St Vincent’s, Sunshine) and five interstate hospitals. As well, we have developed collaborations with a number of other academic departments and institutions (Melbourne, Monash, LaTrobe, RMIT Universities, VPIC, Monash University Applied Research Centre, Metropolitan Ambulance Service).

One particular highlight of 2007 was the academic success of Esther Chan, one of our ED pharmacists. Esther completed her Master’s degree in Clinical Pharmacy and just happened to top her year along the way! Esther has now enrolled in the Monash University PhD program and will be the ED Research Fellow for the next three years. Her studies will be supported by the prestigious Ian Scott Scholarship.

Congratulations are also due to Caroline Cooper, one of our ED consultants. Caroline has recently finished writing up her PhD thesis that is presently under examination. She undertook detailed qualitative research into a range of patient care issues.

Finally, we were successful in winning the 2007 Morson-Taylor Research Award awarded by the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine. This was for the proposed project entitled ‘IV droperidol and olanzepine as adjuncts to midazolam for the acutely agitated patient: a randomised, double-blind, controlled clinical trial’.

I would like to congratulate those staff who have had successful research endeavours during 2007 and thank those who assisted and facilitated this good work.

DT
Mann T, Taylor DMcD, Smit De V. Eutectic mixture of local anaesthetics vs nitrous oxide for cannulation of children in the emergency department.
*J Pharm Pract Res* 2007; 37: 281-283

Taylor SE, Chu MK-Y, Haack LA, McGrath A, To T-P. An abbreviation to reduce the use of error-prone prescribing abbreviations in the emergency department
*J Pharm Pract Res* 2007; 37: 214-16

Taylor DMcD, MacBean CE, Das A, Mohd Rosli R. Mobile telephone use among Melbourne drivers: the number of drivers at risk remains unchanged.


Yeoh M. ‘From other journals’

Yeoh M. NICS Emergency Care Update. *Your Direction* 2007; 8: 10-11


Shen JJ, Taylor DMcD, Knott JC, MacBean CE. Bupivacaine in the Emergency Department is underused: scope for improved patient care.


Hendrie J, Sammartino L, Silvapulle MJ, Braitberg G. Experience in adverse events detection in an emergency department: incidence and outcome of events.

Hendrie J, Sammartino L, Silvapulle MJ, Braitberg G. Experience in adverse events detection in an emergency department: the nature of events
ARTICLES ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION (IN PRESS)

Taylor DMcD, Bernard SA, Masci K, MacBean CE, Kennedy MP, Zalstein S. Pre-hospital Non-Invasive Ventilation is unlikely to be a viable treatment option in the urban setting. Accepted *Prehosp Emerg Care*, July 31, 2007. In press


ARTICLES UNDERGOING PEER REVIEW


Hewat N, Taylor DMcD, MacDonald E. Pilot study of Random Finger Prick Glucose testing as a screening tool for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in the Emergency Department Submitted to *A NZ J Pub Health* December 6, 2007

RESEARCH – ORAL PRESENTATIONS

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast, Qld. November 2007

‘Nature and outcomes of therapeutic errors reported to the Victorian Poisons Info Centre’
Taylor D

‘Paediatric Pain: Yes, I truly feel your pain, I think?’
Rajasagaram U

‘Intervention encouraging ambulance paramedics to bring patient’s own medications to the emergency department reduces prescribing errors on hospital admission’
Chan E

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, Winter Symposium, Launceston, Tasmania. June 2007

‘Evaluation of Emergency Department (ED) Random Finger Prick Glucose (RFPG) testing as a screening tool for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM)’
Hewat N

‘Patients who “leave without being seen” from an emergency department.’
Taylor D

‘Mobile telephone use among Melbourne drivers: no change in the number of drivers at risk.’
Taylor D

‘Consumer friendly patient information package improves patient knowledge of angina self-management’
Taylor SE

‘Paediatric topics from the Emergency Department’
Goutsmanis J

‘Case-report of an unusual case of arsenic poisoning’
Braitberg B

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, Victorian Faculty Scientific Meeting. Melbourne September 2007

'Papers to change your practice’
Yeoh M

‘The clinical-research nexus in Emergency Medicine’
Taylor D

‘Intervention encouraging Ambulance paramedics to bring patient’s own medications to the emergency department reduces prescribing errors on hospital admission’
Chan E

‘Consumer friendly patient information package improves patient knowledge of angina self-management’
Glenn Valoppi

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Australasian College for Emergency Medicine, Annual Scientific Meeting, Gold Coast, Qld. November 2007

‘Audit of organisational policies for pain management in Australian Emergency Departments’
Yeoh M

‘Audit of pain management in Australian Emergency Departments’
Yeoh M

‘Triage presentation descriptions bias emergency department waiting times’
Dutch M, Taylor DMcD, Dent AW

‘Echuca-Austin Health. Telecommunication Pilot Project’
Braitberg G, Taylor D McD.

‘The utility of chest Xray for ED patients with uncomplicated chest pain’
Ng J, Taylor DMcD

‘The use of Health Smart Cards by Emergency Department patients: Perceptions of healthcare workers and patients’
Mohd Rosli R, Taylor DMcD, Knott JC, Dent A.

Austin Hospital Research Week 2007

‘Consumer friendly patient information package improves patient knowledge of angina self-management’
Taylor SE, Valoppi G, Sammut F

‘The utility of chest Xray for ED patients with uncomplicated chest pain’
Ng J, Taylor D

‘The use of Health Smart Cards by Emergency Department patients: Perceptions of healthcare workers and patients’
Mohd Rosli R, Taylor D, Knott JC, Dent A

‘Nature and outcomes of therapeutic errors reported to the Victorian Poisons Info Centre’
Taylor D, Robinson J, MacLeod D, MacBean CE, Braitberg G

‘Paediatric Pain: Yes, I truly feel your pain, I think?’
Rajasagaram U, Taylor DMcD, Braitberg D, Peersall J, Otin B

‘Mobile telephone use among Melbourne drivers: the number of drivers at risk remains unchanged’
Taylor D, MacBean C, Das A, Mohd Rosli R

‘Evaluation of Emergency Department Random Finger Prick Glucose testing as a screening tool for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus’
Hewat N, Taylor D, McDonald E

Royal Melbourne Hospital Research Week 2007

‘Mobile telephone use among Melbourne drivers: the number of drivers at risk remains unchanged’ Taylor D, MacBean C, Das A, Mohd Rosli R


‘Problems associated with patient handovers within the emergency department’
Ye K, Taylor D, Knott JC, Dent A, MacBean C
ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

‘Nebulised N-acetylcysteine versus saline to improve diagnostic yield of sputum in CAP: a randomised controlled clinical trial’
Taylor D, Taylor S, Charles P, Howden B

‘Pilot Project of Procedural Sedation in the Emergency Department: Is Patient Satisfaction Adequate?’
Ghosh A, Taylor D

‘Factors that impact upon Emergency Department patient non-compliance with antibiotic regimens’
Wong J, Taylor D, Cabalag M, Ugoni A

‘Topical alkane vapocoolant spray in reducing the pain of intravenous cannulation in the emergency department: a randomised, single-blinded, placebo-controlled trial’
Hijazi R, Taylor D, Richardson J

‘The effect of caffeine on adenosine dosage in patients with supraventricular tachycardia’

‘Triage ‘presenting complaint’ descriptions bias waiting times in Emergency Departments’
Dutch M, Taylor D, Dent AW

‘Evaluation of the Primary Contact Physiotherapy Service in the Emergency Department’
DiNatale D, Crane J, Taylor D, Judkins S

‘The nature and outcome of therapeutic errors involving adults in the community setting’
Taylor D, Robinson J, Macleod D, Braitberg G

‘The nature and outcome of therapeutic errors involving children in the community setting’
Taylor D, Robinson J, Macleod D, Braitberg G

‘A clinical intervention trial to reduce the inappropriate prescribing of metoclopramide in the Emergency Department’
Yeoh B, Taylor D, Taylor SE

‘A multi-faceted education initiative to increase the appropriate use of bupivacaine in hand injuries’
Rickman S, Taylor D, Taylor SE

‘Emergency Care Community of Practice Pain initiative 2006–7 Organisation Audit’
National Institute of Clinical Studies

‘The utility of chest Xray in patients with uncomplicated chest pain’
Ng J, Taylor D
‘Emergency Department procedural sedation practices and factors associated with adverse events’
The ED sedation study investigators (a national collaborative)

‘Paediatric Pain Assessment: Differences between Triage Nurse, Child and Parent’
Rajasagaram u, Taylor D, Braitberg G, Pearsell J, Capp B

‘The resource implications of vital signs monitoring in the Emergency Department’
Ferma M, Taylor D, Cochrane C, Petre I, Yeoh M

‘Delayed versus immediate urethral catheterization following instillation of local anaesthetic gel in males: a randomized clinical trial’
Garbutt B, Taylor D, Lee V, Aguillo M

‘Paramedic cooling compared with hospital cooling after pre-hospital cardiac arrest: a randomised controlled trial’
The RICH Investigators

‘The frequency and nature of complementary and alternative medicine usage among Emergency Department patients on warfarin’
Ghosh A, Taylor D, Taylor S, Haack L

‘Evaluation of ED medical, nursing and allied health staff attitudes towards the use of complementary medicines’
Taylor SE, Welch S, Barbour L, Ainsworth J.

‘Patient transfer from hospital to Aged Care facilities: Common medication problems and possible solutions.’
Taylor SE, Chu M, Tanner F