

Violent Crime Prevention – Emergency Department and Minor Injuries Units Data Capture

The ECDS dataset creates a requirement for all Emergency Departments to collect assault related data. Indeed hospitals are a key source for enhancing violent crime data, by capturing details of their role in treating patients, particularly in the context of the night-time economy.

Working nationally in partnership with Community Safety Partnerships, the Police, Emergency Departments and Minor Injuries Units we have trained Emergency Department staff to improve their data collection practises for over a decade. In addition we have developed bespoke incident reporting systems, including Access databases and training manuals for use by departmental staff. Our ARID (Assault-Related Injuries Data collection) programme, with its accurate location gazetteers, is designed to maximise the extraction of further information on the temporal and locational nature of alcohol-related violent offences, and violent crime. This significantly enhances knowledge about hotspot locations, premises and times.

What we will do:

- Liaise with your Emergency Departments to look at their existing systems and processes for collecting assault-related data.
- Either install dedicated software to help the hospital to collect the data, or work with them to ensure their data extraction process provides as rich a source of data as possible.
- Train reception staff in assault data collection. It is essential that staff take ownership of the process and understand the community safety benefits at a local level – that it can make their own streets safer.
- Provide a training manual to support the package.
- Whatever processes your Emergency Department uses for extraction, we cleanse the data and import it into our dedicated ARID system, which converts street and licensed premises into GIS Northing and Easting coordinates for easier analytical and operational use.
- Act as a single point of contact for your regional hospitals, merging Emergency Department datasets together from disparate systems, providing a monthly combined datasheet and pivots for hotspot street

and licensed premises location – and any other areas of specific interest

- We can also provide the same service in relation to Minor Injuries Units (MIUs). In some areas of the country where Emergency Departments are at a greater geographical distance, we have found that assault victims will frequently seek treatment at MIUs. Bringing MIUs into the partnership can greatly enhance the regional intelligence picture (Cornwall is a specific example where we have successfully combined Emergency Department and MIU data for many years).

Testimonies

"[Our] Community Safety Team uses the ARID data on a regular basis, primarily to inform monthly night time economy and anti-social behaviour briefings. The ARID data is used to help develop our understanding of hotspot premises, streets as well as temporal information. This information is then sent out to colleagues, including licensing, to inform prevention and early intervention activity. "

"As a result of this information, together with our own data, we were able to tackle a local nightclub around the level of injuries and disorder. As a result, the club is moving their smoking area away from the front of the premises next to the street into an area at the rear of the club, away from the street (at some cost to them).

We wouldn't have been able to do this without the data. I anticipate it will lead to a reduction in crime, disorder and indeed a reduction in injuries. This just proves the value of the hospital data."

"ARID data was recently used during licensing proceedings, resulting in a premises being instructed to use polycarbonate rather than glass in the future. The data was particularly informative in this context as it contained information as to assaults occurring in and outside the premises in question, the time/day of injuries, as well as the weapon used (e.g. bottle/glass)."

About Us

We have been involved in delivering a wide range of significant and successful work across the country assisting our clients to develop and thrive, making a difference creating safer, stronger and healthier communities. Our work covers three areas; *Advisory consultancy, Training and development and Research and review.*

For more details of our services please visit our web-site: www.linxs.org.uk

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