



Falls Report 2015

- 47% of ED attendances with falls, 62% of hospital admissions with falls and 89% of deaths from falls are in the 65+ age group
- Numbers of falls are fairly stable
- No strong trend in month or time of fall; however 13% of attendances by the older age group are in the early hours of the morning
- The home is the most likely place for a fall to occur
- Older age group more likely to arrive by ambulance and more likely to be admitted to hospital rather than discharged from ED
- Almost a third of hospital admissions in the older age group are not finished after one episode of care, meaning there is a longer spell in hospital
- 3% of the admissions with falls also had dehydration; the majority of these were aged 65+, making it 5% in that age group

Sources: ED attendances at Stepping Hill Hospital having fall in any of the 3 reasons for attendance fields; all NHS Hospital admissions which have codes for falls in any of the 13 diagnosis fields in the initial episode of care; all Deaths with fall codes as the underlying cause of death.

Three year trend

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
ED attendances at Stepping Hill	6165	6262	6885
Hospital admissions	3537	3094	3440
Deaths	48	53	55

Age

Though the youngest age group accounts for 11% of ED attendances for falls, almost half of falls attendances are by people aged 65 and over. Within these older age groups, the percentage and also rate per population increase with age. Hospital admissions and deaths also show this increase with age.

age band	ED attendances		Hospital admissions		Deaths	
	% of falls attendances	Rate per 000	% of falls admissions	Rate per 000	% of falls deaths	Rate per 000
0 - 4	11%	144.7	5%	8.9	0%	0.0
5 - 9	6%	85.3	3%	6.5	0%	0.0
10 - 14	5%	73.8	3%	6.3	0%	0.0
15 - 19	3%	39.8	2%	4.1	1%	0.2
20 - 24	3%	46.8	2%	4.2	0%	0.1
25 - 29	3%	39.5	2%	4.5	0%	0.1
30 - 34	2%	31.6	2%	3.6	0%	0.0
35 - 39	3%	34.7	2%	4.6	1%	0.1
40 - 44	3%	35.2	3%	4.1	0%	0.0
45 - 49	4%	39.2	3%	5.1	1%	0.1
50 - 54	4%	45.5	3%	5.5	3%	0.4
55 - 59	4%	52.9	4%	7.2	3%	0.5
60 - 64	4%	59.4	5%	9.6	3%	0.5
65 - 69	5%	71.3	6%	13.2	2%	0.4
70 - 74	5%	100.8	6%	17.1	3%	0.7
75 - 79	8%	178.5	9%	29.0	10%	3.0
80 - 84	10%	294.3	14%	59.1	22%	8.6
85 +	20%	669.2	27%	133.0	52%	22.5

Month

There is no strong trend in month of falls. It should be noted that a fall as cause of death could have occurred well before the date of death.

	ED attendances		Hospital admissions		Deaths	
	all ages	65 +	all ages	65 +	all ages	65 +
January	7%	7%	7%	8%	10%	13%
February	6%	6%	8%	8%	6%	10%
March	8%	8%	9%	9%	6%	8%
April	9%	9%	7%	8%	10%	10%
May	9%	9%	9%	8%	11%	14%
June	9%	8%	8%	8%	10%	7%
July	10%	9%	9%	8%	8%	10%
August	9%	9%	9%	9%	7%	5%
September	9%	10%	9%	8%	12%	5%
October	9%	9%	9%	9%	10%	3%
November	9%	10%	9%	9%	4%	9%
December	7%	7%	8%	9%	5%	6%

Time of arrival at ED

Most attendances occur during daytime hours; however 13% of attendances by the older age group are in the early hours of the morning.

Hour of arrival	All ages	Ages 0-14	Ages 15-64	Ages 65+
00	2%	0%	2%	3%
01	2%	0%	3%	2%
02	1%	0%	2%	2%
03	1%	0%	2%	2%
04	1%	0%	1%	2%
05	1%	0%	1%	2%
06	1%	0%	1%	2%
07	2%	1%	2%	2%
08	4%	2%	4%	4%
09	6%	6%	6%	6%
10	6%	5%	6%	7%
11	7%	6%	7%	8%
12	7%	7%	7%	6%
13	7%	7%	6%	7%
14	7%	8%	7%	6%
15	6%	8%	6%	6%
16	7%	9%	6%	6%
17	6%	9%	5%	5%
18	6%	9%	6%	5%
19	6%	9%	5%	5%
20	5%	7%	5%	5%
21	4%	5%	4%	4%
22	3%	2%	4%	4%
23	3%	1%	3%	3%

Location where fall happened

The ED attendances data uses a different classification for the location a fall occurred, but all data points to the home as the most common location for a fall.

Place of fall	ED attendances	
	all ages	65 +
Home	54%	67%
Public Place	22%	16%
Other	14%	16%
All other specified	11%	1%

Place of fall	admissions		deaths	
	all ages	65 +	all ages	65 +
Home	43%	52%	61%	61%
Residential Institution	10%	16%	12%	14%
Unspecified place	28%	17%	13%	12%
All other specified	19%	14%	14%	13%

Arrival at ED

When looking at all ED attendances for falls, just under half arrive by ambulance; however of those aged 65+, almost three quarters arrive by ambulance.

Arrival method	All ages	Ages 0-14	Ages 15-64	Age 65+
Car	49%	83%	63%	23%
Ambulance	45%	12%	27%	73%
Any other	6%	4%	10%	4%

Discharge from ED and admission to hospital

For all ED attendances for falls, a quarter of patients are admitted to hospital. The portion admitted to hospital increases with age. The hospital admissions for falls are almost all admitted via ED; 86% over all, 92% in the 65+.

Age band	ED falls attendances admitted to hospital	hospital falls admission via ED
0 to 14	7%	76%
15 to 64	12%	76%
65 +	44%	92%
all ages	26%	86%

Discharge destination

Age band	Usual residence (other than care home)	Not discharged as hospital spell not finished	Care home/nursing home	Died	Other
0 to 14	96%	1%	0%	0%	3%
15 to 64	82%	16%	1%	0%	2%
65 +	58%	30%	6%	2%	4%
all ages	68%	23%	4%	1%	3%

Deaths

Under 1% of ED attendances and 1% of admission for falls ended with the death of the patient. As 80% of deaths from falls have a hospital as place of death, these deaths would be occurring after the end of the first episode of care in hospital.

Place of death	
hospital	80%
care home/ residential home	11%
own home	6%
elsewhere	2%

The 3 year DSR (directly standardized ratio) of deaths from falls shows little variation over the past ten years.

Deaths from falls DSR	2004-2006	2005-2007	2006-2008	2007-2009	2008-2010	2009-2011	2010-2012	2011-2013	2012-2014	2013-2015
All ages	22.5	23.3	21.4	23.1	20.8	18.5	16.3	19.9	21.1	24.3
Under 75s	4.7	5.9	5.9	5.0	3.3	3.1	2.9	4.2	4.1	3.9