



Find out more at:

http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/groups/injury_research/projects/kcs/index.aspx

Thank you very much for taking part in our studies to find out how we can help families keep their children safe. More than 1000 GPs took part from areas in and around Nottingham, Derby, Lincoln, Bristol, Norwich and Newcastle. These GPs recruited more than 11,000 parents.

We found a range of factors increased the risk of children being injured at home and going to hospital with an injury.

We can help families prevent these injuries by:

- giving advice about the behaviours we know increase the risk of injury (see below)
- discussing home safety in child health checks and after A&E visits for injury
- discussing safe storage of medicines when we prescribe
- referring to health visitors for safety advice
- referring to home safety equipment schemes

Which factors increase the risk of poisoning?

Children who attended hospital because of a poisoning were more likely than uninjured children to live in families that:

- Didn't store medicines locked away or out of reach (at adult eye level or above)
- Didn't put medicines away immediately after use
- Didn't put household products away immediately after use

Which factors increase the risk of falls from furniture?

Children who attended hospital because of a fall from furniture were more likely than uninjured children to live in families that:

- Didn't use safety gates anywhere in the house
- Changed children's nappies on raised surfaces
- Left children in car or bouncing seats on raised surfaces
- Left children unattended on raised surfaces
- Allowed children to play or climb on furniture more often
- Didn't teach children rules about not climbing on objects in the kitchen

Which factors increase the risk of scalds?

Children who attended hospital because of a scald were more likely than uninjured children to live in families that:

- Left hot drinks within the reach of children
- Didn't teach children about not touching hot things in the kitchen, not climbing on things in the kitchen and what to do, or not do when parents are cooking

Which factors increase the risk of falls from stairs?

Children who attended hospital because of a fall on stairs were more likely than uninjured children to live in families that:

- Didn't use a safety gate on their stairs or left it open
- Didn't have carpet on stairs
- Didn't have a landing part-way up their stairs
- Thought their stairs needed repair or were unsafe

This research was funded by the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) under its Programme Grants for Applied Research Programme (RP-PG-0407-10231) and involved the Child Accident Prevention Trust, Newcastle University, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, and the Universities of Leicester, Nottingham and the West of England

The views expressed are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NHS, the NIHR or the Department of Health