

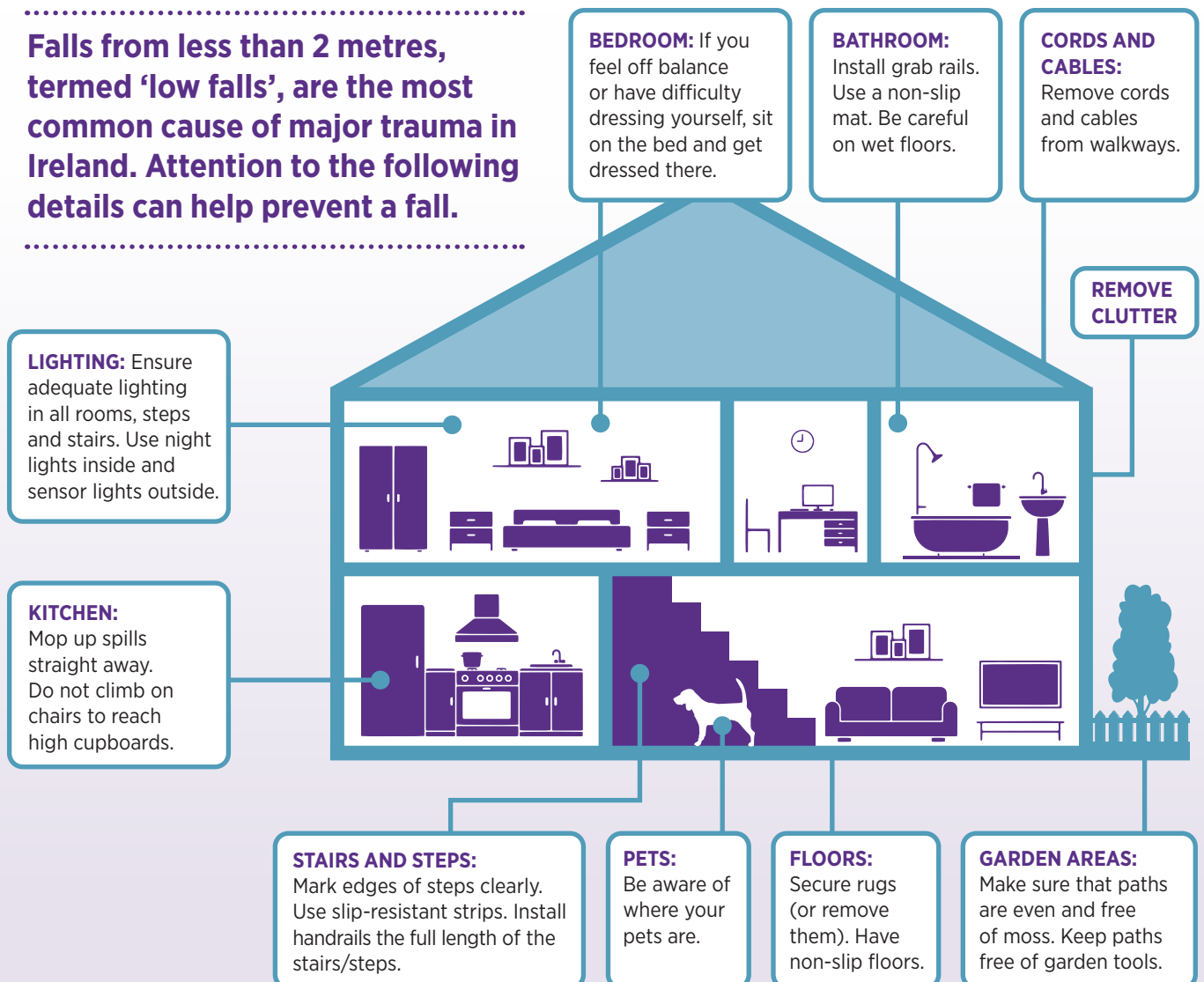
MAJOR TRAUMA AUDIT SUMMARY REPORT 2018

The Major Trauma Audit (MTA) was established by the National Office of Clinical Audit (NOCA) in 2013. This audit focuses on the care of the more severely injured patients in our healthcare system, across 26 trauma receiving hospitals.

WHAT IS MAJOR TRAUMA?

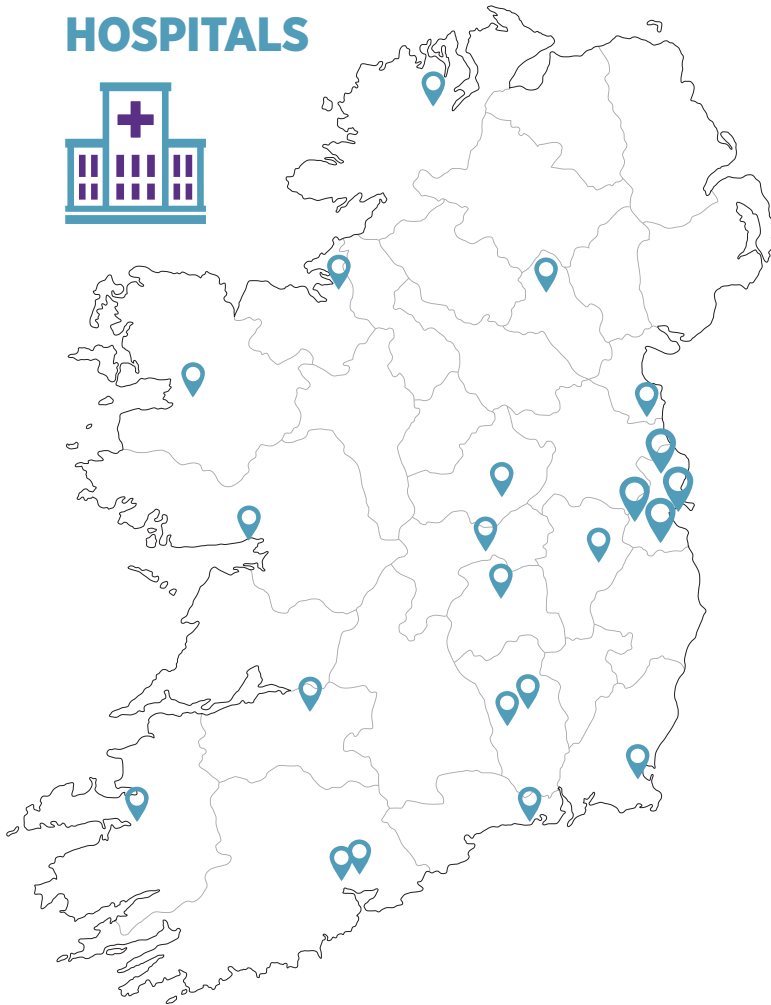
Major trauma is any injury that has the potential to cause prolonged disability or death. There are many causes of major trauma. These injuries can be caused by blunt or penetrating mechanisms such as falls, motor vehicle collisions, stab wounds, and gunshot wounds (World Health Organization, 2018).


Falls from less than 2 metres, termed 'low falls', are the most common cause of major trauma in Ireland. Attention to the following details can help prevent a fall.




KEY FINDINGS 2018

26
HOSPITALS

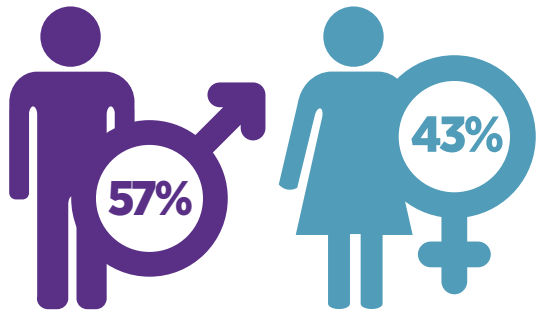


5429 
PATIENTS RECORDED

88% 
DATA COVERAGE

WHO ARE THE INJURED?

The average age of major trauma patients was 59 and 46% were aged 65 years and older.



25%

25% of patients sustained limb injuries



48%

48% of patients with GCS <13 received a CT within 1 hour



20%

20% of patients were transferred to another hospital for further care

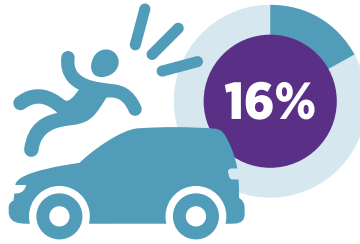


HOW WERE THEY INJURED?

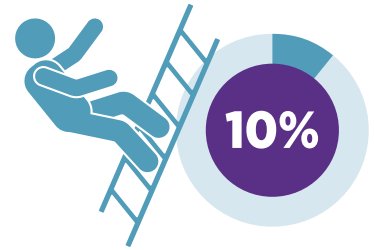
The most common ways in which patients were injured:



58% of patients suffered a 'low fall' (less than 2 metres)



16% of patients suffered road trauma



10% of patients suffered a fall of greater than 2 metres

WHERE WERE THEY INJURED?



Home



Public area or road



Institution



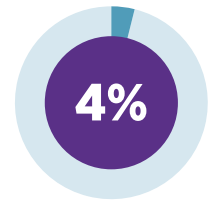
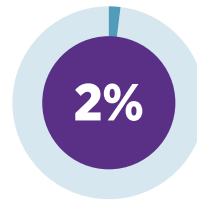
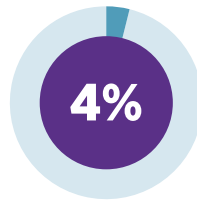
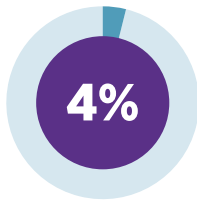
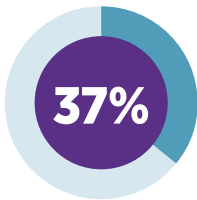
Farm



Industrial



Other



87,768

87,768 acute bed days for major trauma patients



9

Median length of acute hospital stay was 9 days



59%

59% of patients were discharged directly home



KEY RECOMMENDATIONS



The MTA continues to highlight the need for a coordinated trauma system that can deliver the right care for the right patient in the right hospital at the right time.



The MTA shows the need for a multi-agency, multidisciplinary strategy to prevent the most common mechanism of injury in Ireland: low falls.



Each hospital should have a local MTA hospital governance committee who actively use the data for quality improvement.

NOCA will conduct a survey of MTA hospital governance committees and will provide guidance and tools to support this.

PATIENT AND PUBLIC INTEREST

“Safety First”, as often accidents and injuries could have potentially been avoided by better falls prevention measures, as well as improved safety in the workplace and on the roads. We each have a role to play in preventing life-changing major trauma events. The information in this report is not only of relevance to hospital professionals, but also to patients and the wider public”.

Naomi Fitzgibbon, Patient and Public Interest Representative, MTA Governance Committee



REFERENCES

World Health Organization (2018) Falls [Internet]. Available from: <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs344/en/> [Accessed 23 October 2019].

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