



Trauma support

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CENTRE FOR
ORTHOPAEDIC
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RESEARCH



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SA Health

Heath Francis

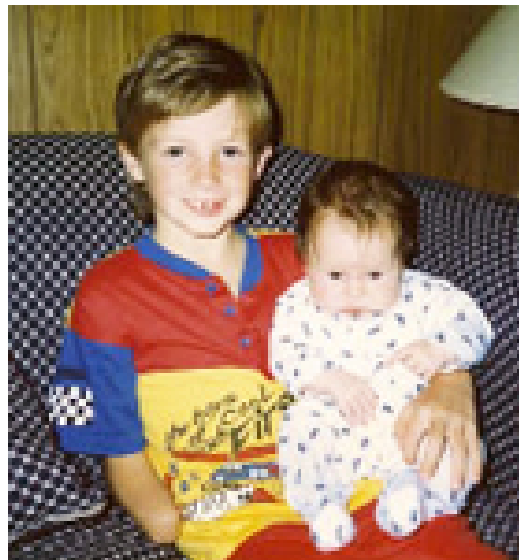


Photo credit: "That's Life"



How do we care for Heath?

- > First aid
- > Transport
- > Trauma team/EMST principles
- > Pain relief, antibiotics, tetanus prophylaxis
- > Limb salvage vs amputation
- > Dressings
- > Rehabilitation
- > Prosthetic



How do we care for Heath?

Who looks after his older brother?

Who looks after the farm?

Does mum stay in hospital or go home?

How does mum get back to the farm?

How do they attend follow-up?

Will he be teased at school?

Grief, guilt, anxiety

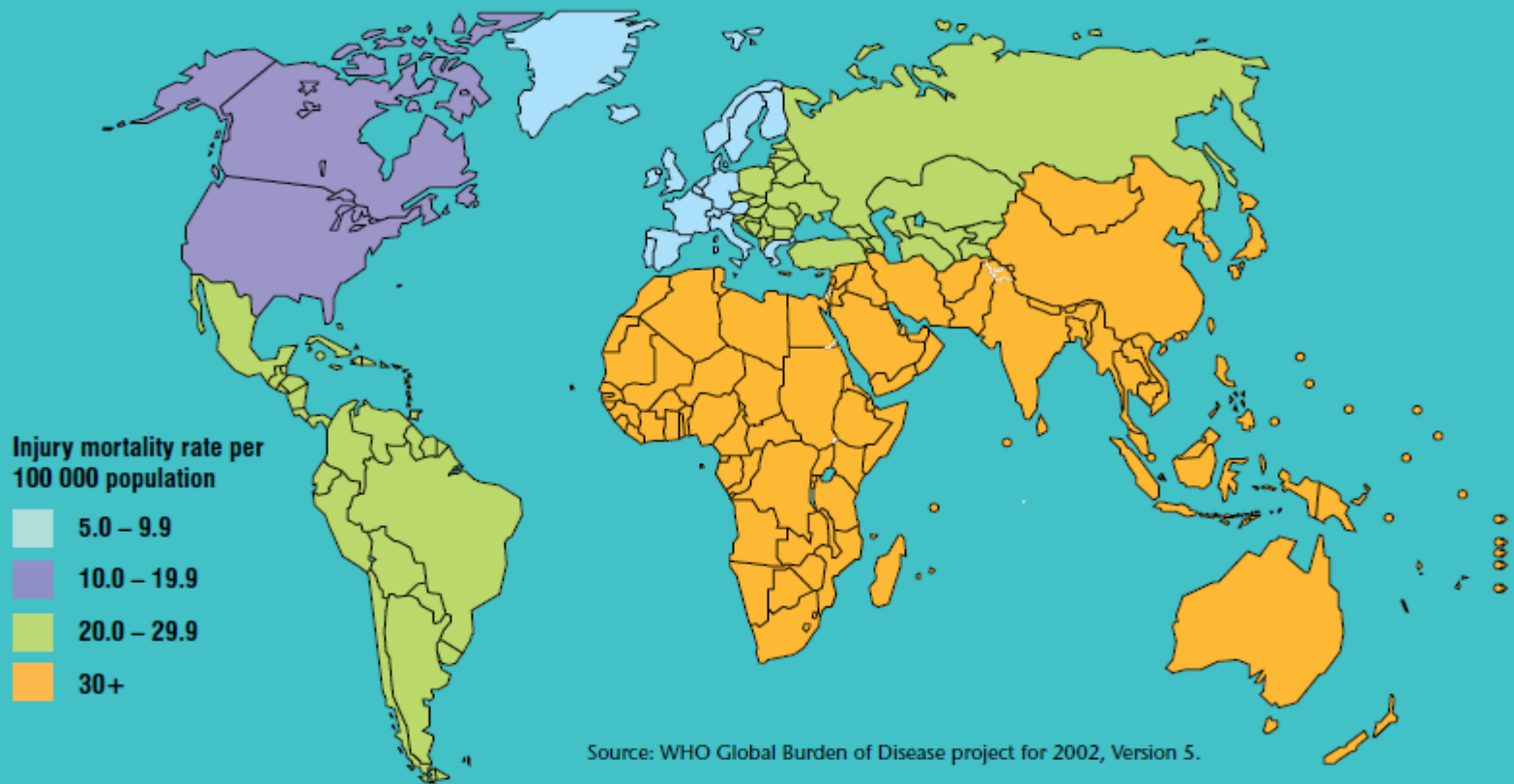


Paediatric trauma in Australia

- > N° 1 cause of death 1 – 14 year olds
- > N° 2 cause of hospitalisation

- Kidsafe

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD AND ADOLESCENT INJURY MORTALITY RATES, 2002 (under 15 years)



Risk factors for paediatric trauma

Australian data

- > Lower socio-economic status
- > Indigenous
- > Rural and remote

- AIHW

International data

- > Single parenthood
- > Low maternal education
- > Young maternal age
- > Poor housing
- > Large family size
- > Parental drug/ alcohol abuse

- UNICEF 2002



WCH Paediatric Trauma

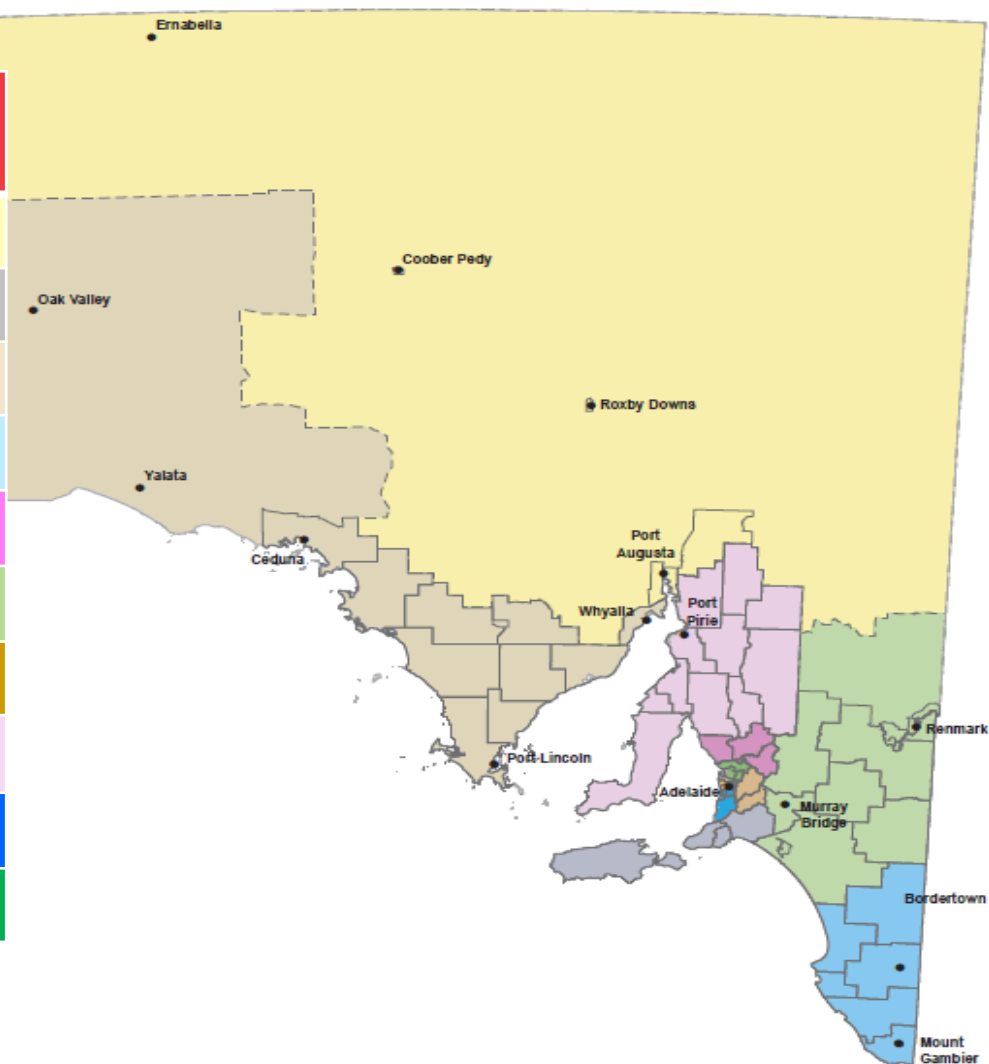
- > 463 trauma presentations 2015
 - 52 Level 1
 - 411 level 2
- > 3 deaths
- > 27 PICU admissions
- > Fall <5m, MVC, MCC, bicycle, horse-riding



Paediatric trauma care

- > ED, PICU, anaesthesia
- > Paed surg, ortho, neurosurg, ENT, plastics, craniofacial, ophthal, dental
- > Rehab, haematology, gen med, DPM
- > Social work, physio, OT, speech path, dietician

Region	N° of cases (N = 4369)
Far North	136
Fleurieu and KI	131
Eyre Western	155
Limestone Coast	144
Barossa, Light, Lower North	289
Murray and Mallee	331
Adelaide Hills	441
Yorke and Mid North	313
Adelaide Metropolitan	2429
Interstate	144





Further challenges

- > Multi-trauma in family/community
- > Non-accidental injury
- > Cultural concerns
- > Retaliation

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Reducing the impact of life-changing injuries on families

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Trauma Family Support Coordinator

- > World-first trial
- > WCH 2014 – 2015
- > 3 days per week
- > Advocacy, counselling, post-discharge support



Trauma FSC Success

- > Families keen to engage
- > Highly experienced staff member in role
- > Access to trauma-specific resources



Trauma FSC Challenges

- > 3 days per week with no flexibility
- > Subspecialty social worker resistance
- > Funding



The future?

- > Trauma FSC in all paediatric hospitals
- > Permanent flexible ED position
- > Ward rounds with Trauma Director and CPC

Heath Francis OAM



“Losing my arm made me a champ”



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