

### Supplementary file 3

**Table 4: Influencing factors in decision to use ED (range of number of contributory reasons given=1-9; ordered by main influence proportions)**

<b>Reason for attendance</b>	<b>Influencing factor frequency (%) [n=325; missing=12]</b>	<b>Main influence frequency (%) [n=300; missing=37]</b>
<b>1. I was advised to come here by someone other than a GP</b>	96 (28.5)	63 (18.7)
Minor Injury Unit	27	24
NHS Direct	21	13
School	18	11
Paramedic	5	5
GP receptionist	5	2
First aider	3	2
Family/friend	5	1
Sports club	2	-
Other	8	3
Missing	2	2
<b>2. The child needed to be seen quickly</b>	104 (30.9)	50 (14.8)
<b>3. The child's problem is more appropriate for here</b>	118 (35.0)	38 (11.3)

<b>4. The child was not getting any better</b>	50 (14.8)	25 (7.4)
<b>5. Other influences (grouped together) (data available from authors)</b>	41 (12.2)	24 (7.1)
<b>6. For reassurance</b>	93 (27.8)	21 (6.2)
<b>7. I was advised to come here by a GP (within normal hours 8.00am-6.00pm)</b>	31 (9.2)	16 (4.7)
<b>8. I did not contact the GP as I knew he/she would advise me to come to ED</b>	45 (13.4)	15 (4.5)
<b>9. I wanted a second opinion on the child's problem</b>	45 (13.4)	13 (3.9)
<b>10. You get all the tests and treatments in one place</b>	61 (18.1)	12 (3.6)
<b>11. I was advised to come here by an out-of-hours GP service (outside 8.00am-6.00pm)</b>	10	5
<b>12. Emergency department doctors are more experienced</b>	21 (6.2)	5
<b>13. I was unable to contact a GP / get a GP appointment</b>	13 (3.9)	4
<b>14. I prefer to use the Emergency Department than elsewhere</b>	20 (5.9)	4

<b>15. You get better treatment here</b>	26 (7.7)	4
<b>16. The child has already been seen here with the same problem</b>	5	1
<b>17. It is easier to come here because of my working hours</b>	3	-
<b>18. It is easier because of childcare arrangements</b>	1	-