

COV/STG/20/09 - Ambulance call-outs for psychiatric emergencies during the COVID-19 pandemic

The pandemic of COVID-19 and/or the social distancing restrictions will have significant effects on the mental health of many people in Scotland. This may result in more mental health emergencies that require emergency ambulance attendance. At least 10% of ambulance call-outs in Scotland are related to mental health (9,014 calls from 6,802 people in Scotland in 2011)¹. In this study we will see whether numbers and patterns of these ambulance call-outs, and the characteristics of people experiencing mental health crises, were different from expected during the COVID-19 pandemic.