**Country update on Injury Surveillance: Luxembourg**



*Introduction*

Luxembourg was part of the “European System of Home and Leisure Accidents (EHLASS)” from tits start in 1986. The Ministry of Social Affairs, responsible of the European project at the national level, organized the data collection on home and leisure accidents in the emergency department of one hospital. The Ministry of Economics, in charge of the project from 1993 to 1999, opted, as some other European countries, for a yearly phone survey focusing on product related injuries. After 1999 the responsibility for the project was taken over by the Ministry of Health, that since then continues to be a permanent participant in the European project.

An evaluation of the EHLASS methodology that was in place from 1993 to 2000, brought up a list of recommendations for the implementation of a new national surveillance system. To inform on injury burden and feed the national injury prevention policy planning, it was decided to collect continuously information on all types of injuries from the emergency departments of the hospitals.

*National IDB-system*

In 2009 in collaboration with the Luxembourg’s Institute of Health, a new initiative of a national injury surveillance system was launched. A two-month pilot project started in the emergency department of one main hospital of the country using the well established european Injury Data Base (IDB) methodology.

Luxembourg is a small country with eight emergency departments in four hospitals, with an alternating 24 hour on duty system for two of those hospitals, and some specialized medical services only present in one hospital. To implement an exhaustive injury surveillance system, it was decided to collect the IDB Full Data Set in one hospital and the IDB Minimum Data Set in all other hospitals. Since 2012, Luxembourg’s data are included in the European IDB and data collection is still ongoing in three out of four hospitals.

*Insights gained*

In Luxembourg (576 000 inhabitants), like in the other EU countries, injuries are the 4-th cause of death in the general population and the principal cause of death among children, adolescents and adults aged 1 to 44. Out of the average injury 263 deaths a year between 2005 and 2014, 23% were suicides and 69% accidents among which 18% falls and 16% traffic injuries .

Every year for each injury death 17 peopels are admited to hospital and 230 others are treated as out patients in the emergency departments due to an injury. The yearly incidence rate is estimated 105 ‰ inhabitants but this figure is twice as high among adolescents and older people. Home and leisure accidents are the most common cause of injury.

*Use of data*

A first national report based on 2013 data from all the hospitals has been published in 2015 and a second is being finalized. At international level the latest edition of Injuries in the European Union is launched (November 2016). Actors active in prevention of road trafic injuries, and consumer safety are already using the data . Other actors involved in the prevention of falls among older people, familly violence, suicide have shown interest for these data. Front page articles that include results from the injury surveillance system have been published by the national press.

*Future outlook*

All hospitals of the country will be included in the system. Machine learning techniques are being implemented to reduce the running cost of the system by keeping the good quality of data. Data usage will be increased by involving other actors in injury prevention. Data linkage using Master Patient Index from third trusted parties will widen the potential of the system with respect to ethical requirements.

More information:

[Dritan.bejko@lih.lu](mailto:Dritan.bejko@lih.lu)



*IDB-related publications:*

[http://www.sante.public.lu/fr/publications/t/traumatisme-lux-retrace-2015/index.html](https://owa.certsure.com/OWA/redir.aspx?C=rxPDqn6_gU2r9ICaY2KY8T769NyZMNQIay2oktJlGBot7uvqerZ8jCaLenCx-joxm38lxDZ9_yM.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.sante.public.lu%2ffr%2fpublications%2ft%2ftraumatisme-lux-retrace-2015%2findex.html)

[http://www.sante.public.lu/fr/publications/r/retrace-traumatismes-accidents-luxembourg-fr-de-pt-en/index.html](https://owa.certsure.com/OWA/redir.aspx?C=rxPDqn6_gU2r9ICaY2KY8T769NyZMNQIay2oktJlGBot7uvqerZ8jCaLenCx-joxm38lxDZ9_yM.&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.sante.public.lu%2ffr%2fpublications%2fr%2fretrace-traumatismes-accidents-luxembourg-fr-de-pt-en%2findex.html)

[http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/22/Suppl\_2/A81.2.abstract?sid=112778b2-c13b-42a2-9b5d-b17fc2608919](https://owa.certsure.com/OWA/redir.aspx?C=rxPDqn6_gU2r9ICaY2KY8T769NyZMNQIay2oktJlGBot7uvqerZ8jCaLenCx-joxm38lxDZ9_yM.&URL=http%3a%2f%2finjuryprevention.bmj.com%2fcontent%2f22%2fSuppl_2%2fA81.2.abstract%3fsid%3d112778b2-c13b-42a2-9b5d-b17fc2608919)

[http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/22/Suppl\_2/A81.3.abstract?sid=19371be3-800f-4f88-88e4-2e1979ad88a2](https://owa.certsure.com/OWA/redir.aspx?C=rxPDqn6_gU2r9ICaY2KY8T769NyZMNQIay2oktJlGBot7uvqerZ8jCaLenCx-joxm38lxDZ9_yM.&URL=http%3a%2f%2finjuryprevention.bmj.com%2fcontent%2f22%2fSuppl_2%2fA81.3.abstract%3fsid%3d19371be3-800f-4f88-88e4-2e1979ad88a2)