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## Screening for mental health conditions in children with epilepsy

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The Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ) was used to screen for those at risk of, or currently experiencing MH problems. We received 86 replies and, following exclusions, 64 patients data was analysed. The patient's electronic notes were used to determine diagnoses and medications. 56% of patients scored high or very high risk for having or developing MH difficulties. A chi-square test indicated a significant difference ( $p < 0.001$ ) in the proportion of children with epilepsy with clinically significant scores versus the proportion in the community samples. Peer and pro-social subdomains scored in the 'high' risk category whilst the other subdomains scored in 'close to average' risk. Patients not on anti-epileptic drugs have close to average scores. There is trend towards those on more than 1 Antiepileptic drug having higher scores. Developmental disorder increases that risk of having a high or very high score from 43% to 68%. Our results reflect similar prevalence to that demonstrated in the literature; children with epilepsy have a high risk of developing MH disorders. Our data highlights the need to improve identification, diagnosis, prevention and management of MH problems in children with epilepsy on both a national and local level.

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