

## The Initial Impact of COVID-19 on Paediatric Spinal Services in Scotland

Dr Matthew Newman

Scottish Spinal Service, RHSC, 9 Sciences Rd, Edinburgh EH9 1LF



### Abstract:

**Background:** The COVID-19 pandemic has meant a significant decline in the activities of the paediatric spinal services in Scotland.

**Methods:** All referrals to the Scottish paediatrics spinal service from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 were analysed. Comparison was made to the same period in 2019. All orthotics initial consultations and all paediatrics spinal theatre activity in Scotland from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 was analysed and compared to the previous year. **Results:** There was a 64.3% decline in referrals during the pandemic in Scotland to the paediatric spinal service. The mean wait time to be seen in 1<sup>st</sup> clinic for a new referral was 6.56 weeks in 2020 compared to 10.94 in 2019. There were however 60 patients still waiting to be seen. The number of paediatric spinal operations declined by 34% during March to June 2020 when compared to the same months in 2019 there was a reduction of 50% of new paediatric patients seen by orthotics from March – June 2020 when compared to 2019.



### Biography:

Dr. Matthew Newman completed his medical training at Warwick Medical School, UK in 2017. He completed his UK foundation years in Edinburgh, Scotland. He now works as a surgical trainee in Monklands university hospital as a surgical trainee.

[4th World Congress on Pediatric Neurology & Pediatric Surgery](#)

### Publication:

1. "Mid-2016 Population Estimates for Settlements and Localities in Scotland". Nationalrecordsotland.gov.uk. 31 May 2013. Archived from the original on 23 March 2019. Retrieved 4 March 2019.
2. Jump up to "City of Edinburgh Council Area Profile". Retrieved 31 August 2020.
3. 22 February 2020. Archived from the original on 1 March 2020. Retrieved 1 March 2020.

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