

Groupings by year:

2016 – Records from October, November, and December 2016, irrespective of actual OCS given. Standard practice in the PED was administration of prednisolone 1-2mg/kg (as per national guidelines).

2017 – Records from October, November, and December 2017, irrespective of actual OCS given. Standard practice in the PED was administration of dexamethasone 600mcg/kg (as per protocol).

2018 – Records from October, November, and December 2018, irrespective of actual OCS given. Standard practice in the PED was administration of dexamethasone 300mcg/kg plus a repeat dose on admission (as per revised protocol).

Groupings by OCS drug type and dosage:

PRED – Records from any year where patients received oral prednisolone (excluding those who received any other steroid in addition to prednisolone).

DEX(600) – Records from any year where patients received oral dexamethasone 600mcg/kg; allowing for a +/- 10% discrepancy, whilst taking account of the maximum dose permitted, and excluding those who received any other steroid in addition to dexamethasone.

DEX(300) – Records from any year where patients received oral dexamethasone 300mcg/kg; allowing for a +/- 10% discrepancy, whilst taking account of the maximum dose permitted, and excluding those who received any other steroid in addition to dexamethasone.

Box 1 Groupings defined