

Background

The agglomeration of the Are valley is the biggest and most alpine ski resort in Sweden. A vast number of tourists visit the region both winter and summer. The mountains can be quite challenging for skiers, mountain bikers and hikers with a numerous accidents. For the primary care, a system of alpine rescue teams, ski patrollers and ambulance service has been developed since the 70: ies. A cornerstone for the patients with concussion is the medical center in Are with both general practitioners and specialists. About two hundred cases with TBI/concussion are treated every year. Nearest emergency hospital is situated 100 km from Are and the nearest hospital with neurosurgery is located in a distance of 500 km. Helicopter with anesthesiologist can be used in severe cases. Over the years the Scandinavian guidelines has been used and there has also been a focus of the rehabilitation in structured manner with written information and follow up of the patients in the county but also in other regions/countries.

Method

For the future there will probably be an increased number of tourist and permanent residents in the area, with high demands of a good quality in primary trauma care. This raises for the future several questions to be answered; Should more hospital like conditions be introduced in Are? Should computerized tomography be standard? Should biomarkers be in routine use 24/7? Should transportation facilities be improved and more accessible? Should the trauma teams be further educated and skilled?

Result

A standard questionnaire about this topic was written addressed to the fifteen doctors working with the trauma patients and the result will be presented on the conference.

Discussion

Minor as well as severe TBI has to be triaged and treated in a structured, evidence-based way. This has to be taken in account when health care facilities are planned and performed in in remote areas with a lot of tourists and sport activities.