

# *Injury prevention in New Zealand*

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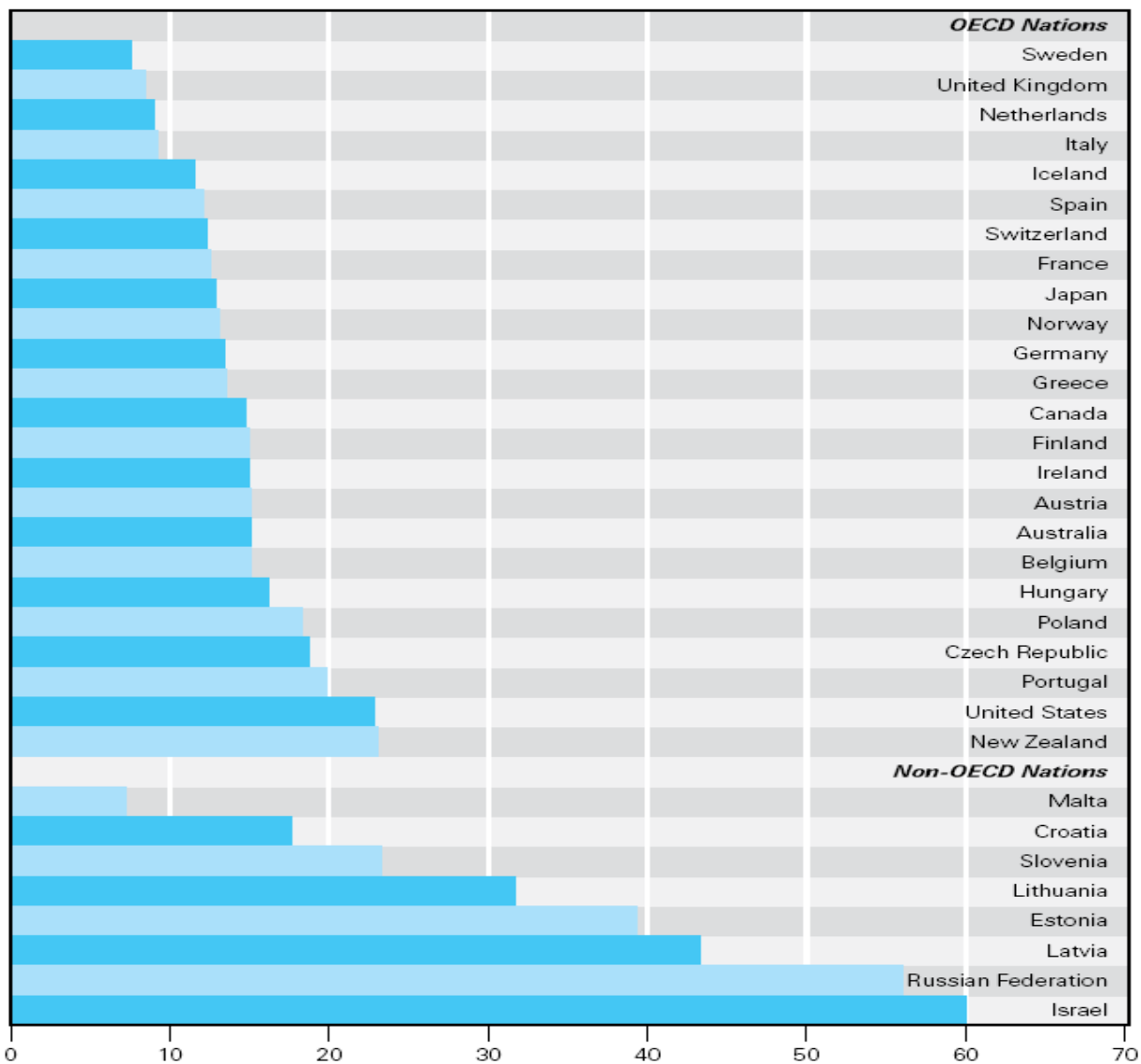
School of Population Health

Faculty of Medical & Health Sciences

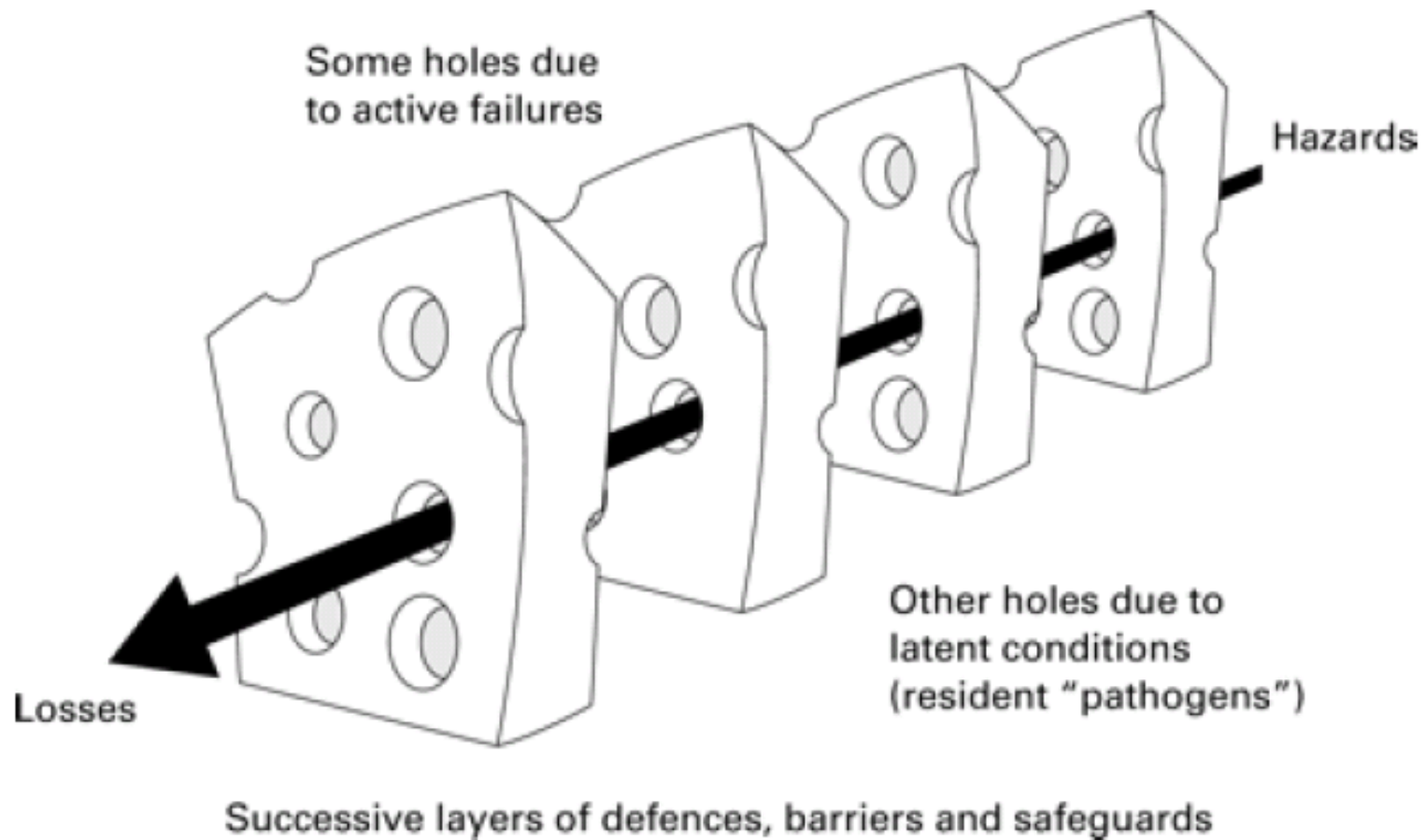
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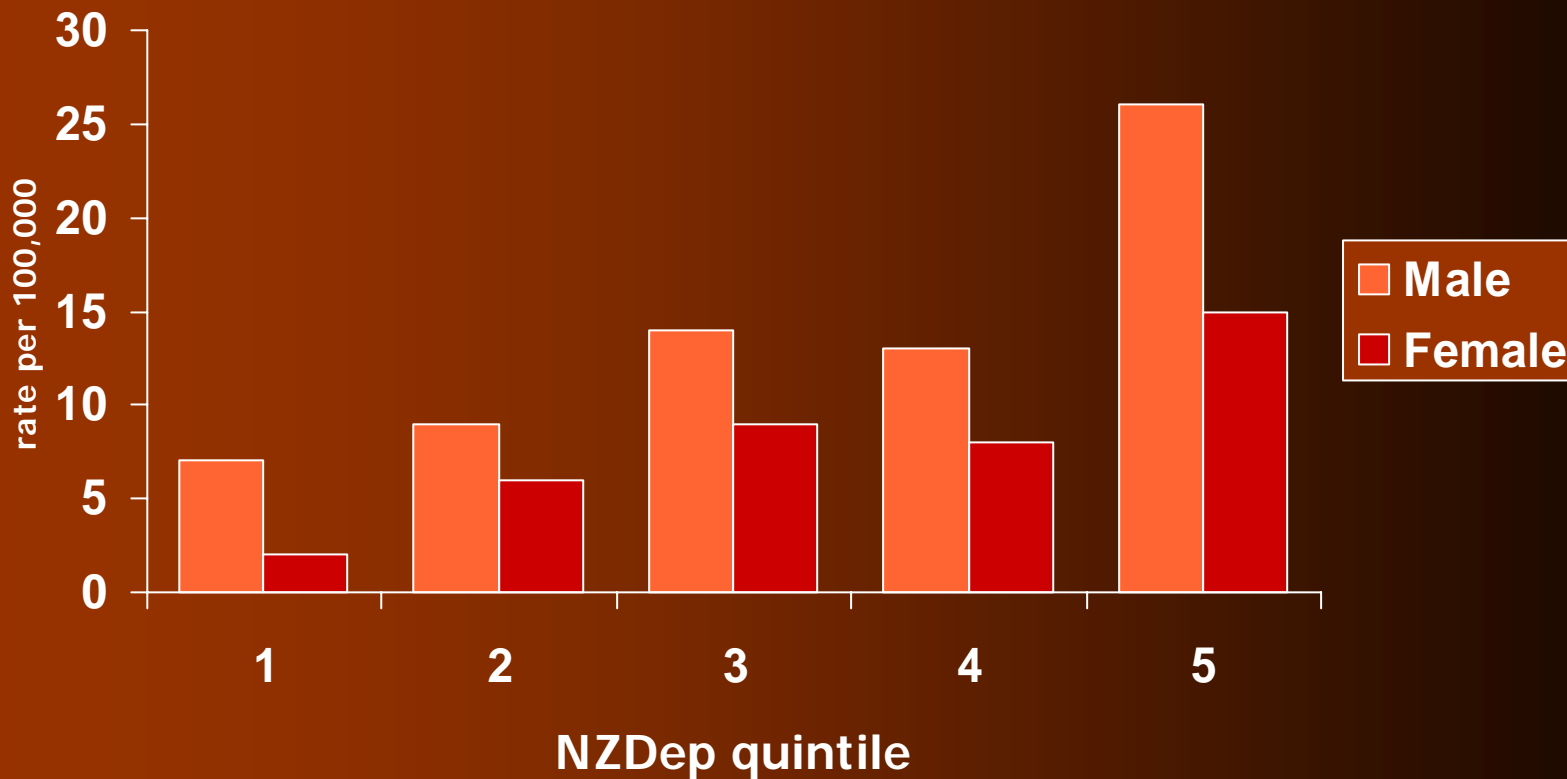
**Figure 2.3** Deaths from accidents and injuries per 100,000 under 19 years  
(average of latest three years available)



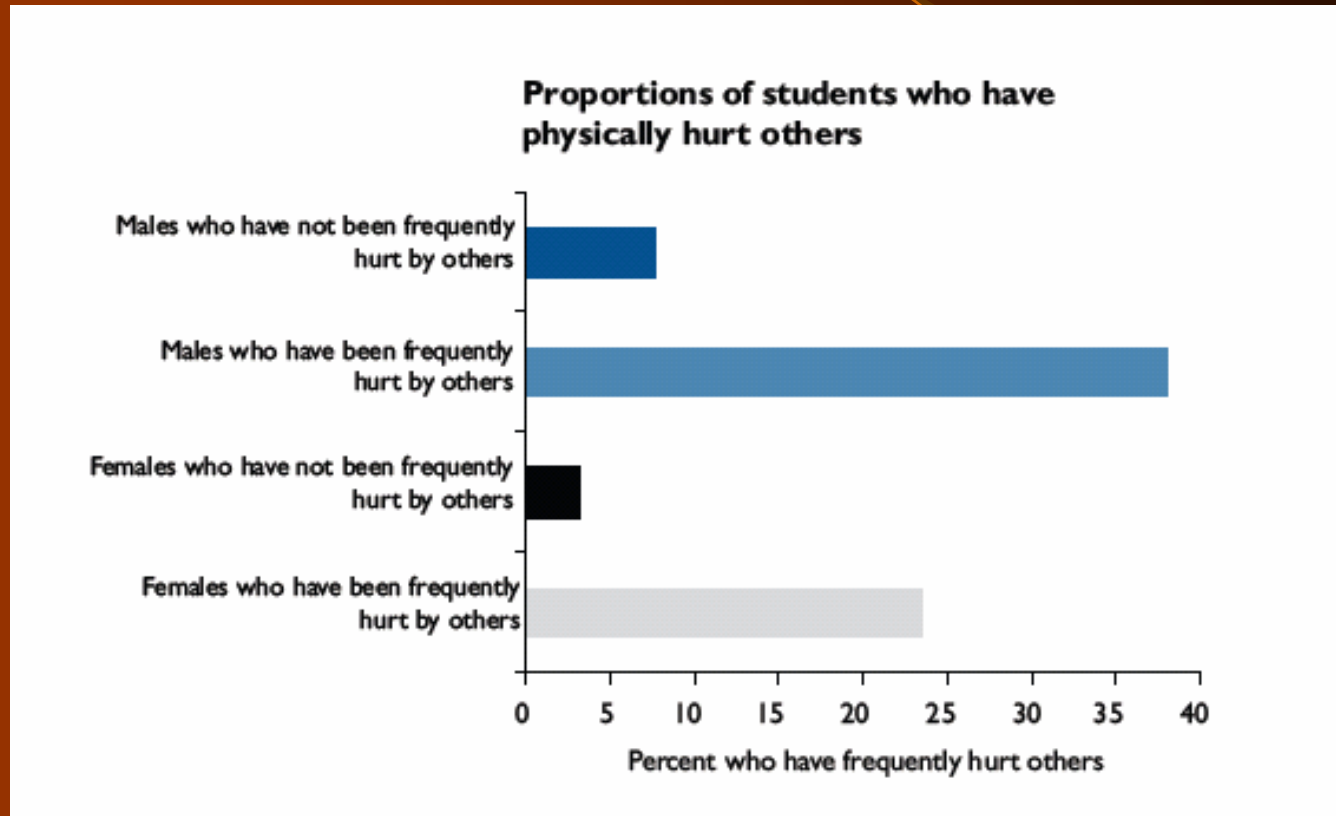
....the ultimate reward of trauma surgery is the opportunity to restore the previously healthy individual to a productive life after sustaining a devastating injury from a **random unanticipated moment of human error.**



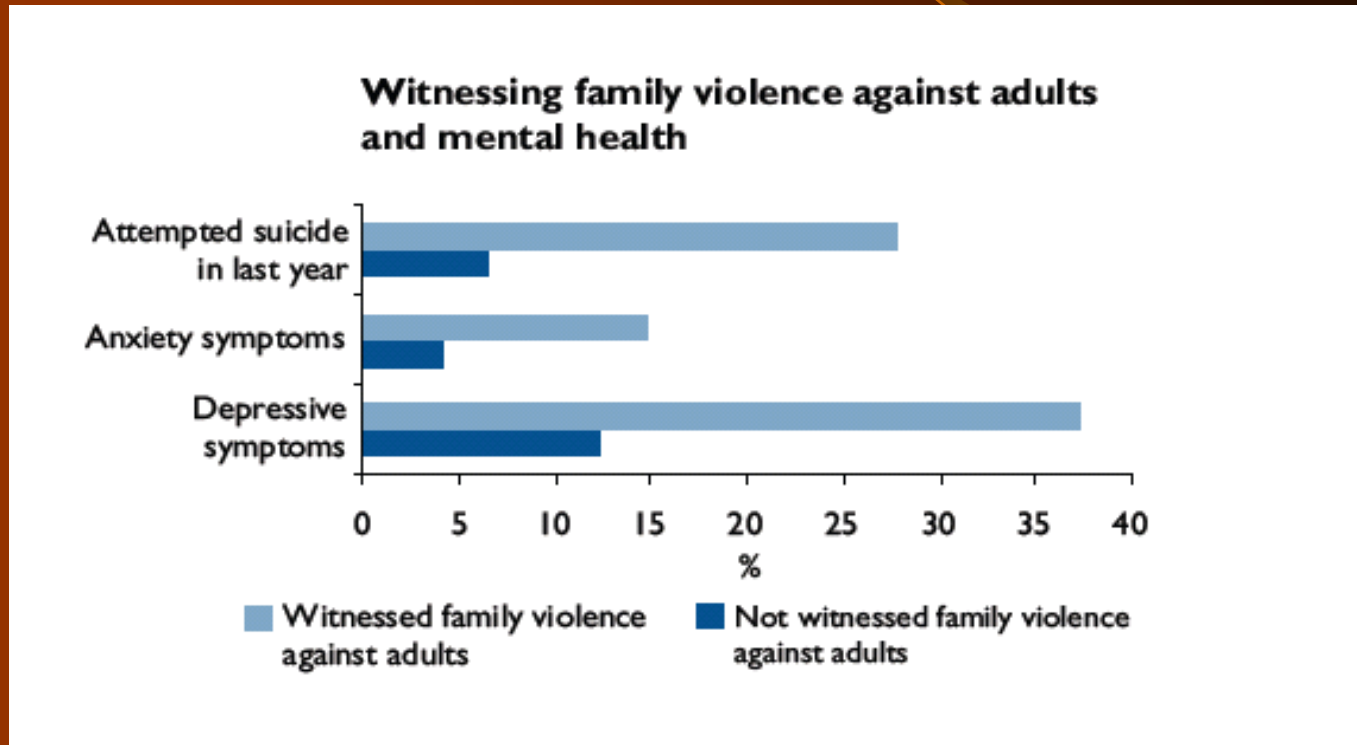
# Childhood injury death rates by socio-economic status



# Youth 2001 survey

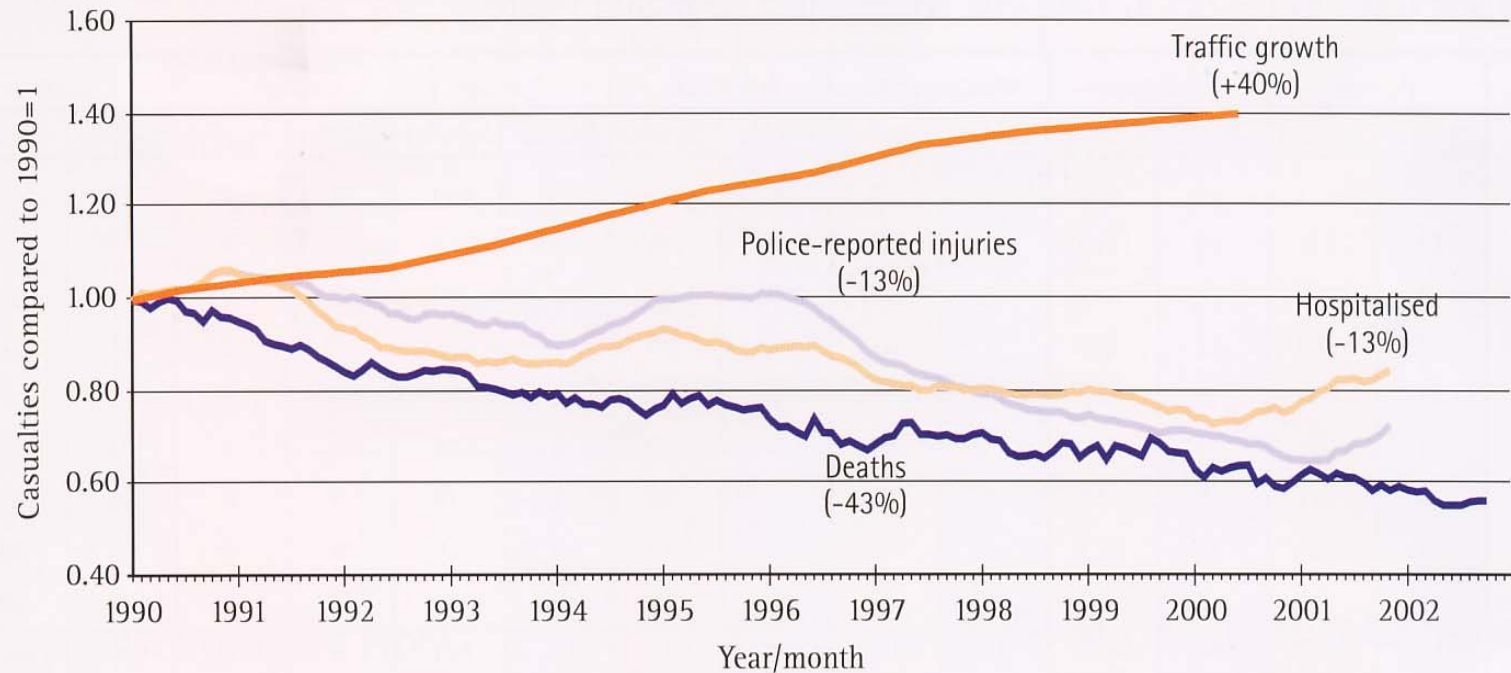


# Youth 2001 survey



# Change in Road Toll

Road crash casualties compared to 1990



# Auckland Child Pedestrian Injury Study 1993-4 (Roberts et al)

- Large differences in pedestrian exposure to risk with regard to ethnic group and levels of car ownership
- Adult accompaniment on the journey to school reduced risk of pedestrian injury
- Risk of injury strongly associated with traffic volume, mean road speed, and density of curb parking
- Three-fold increase in risk of driveway injuries if driveway not separated from play area

# Experiences of families when children are admitted to hospital

- Qualitative study of Maori, Pacific and NZ European (NZE) families
- Children admitted for <1 to 16 days
- Excluded non-accidental injury, TBI, burns
- Family interviews and key informant interviews with service providers

**Many praised dedication of staff, and expressed satisfaction with overall care**

# Communication and Information

- Needed to understand the clinical procedures and management of their child
  - NZE families: sufficient information re physical injury, not well informed about emotional and behavioural implications
  - Maori and Pacific families lacked information in all areas

- *“Sometimes they give you a pamphlet, you don’t have the time, and you need someone there to say it out. Like there are services that are available for you and your child, you know. But they should have some people like these based in the hospital that can inform people about these services that can help them”* (Pacific caregiver)

- *“...there was actually no one, they were all busy, they had how many patients to one nurse, they were so busy you couldn’t ask them, is she gonna be ok, or all that kind of stuff”* (Maori caregiver)

# Negotiating the hospital environment

*“I just said to the doctor, ‘I can’t wait around any more.’ [Child] was beside herself, she still wasn’t asleep, you know. Trying to get her to sleep and just waiting and waiting, and seeing other people come and go. I just thought no no. I thought I was patient enough.”*

*(NZE caregiver)*

*“...the questions that I had already stated, [in the] early hours of the morning, from [another hospital] were continuously going on and on and on, and that really ticked me off. ‘Cause I was answering the same questions all the way through to every person I spoke from the nurse, to the doctor, to whatever intern. By the time I got to him I said look, don’t you people write all this information down on paper, just pass the piece of paper along”.*

*(Maori caregiver)*

# Dealing with conflicting demands

*“I felt really guilty because I know [child] wanted me to sleep over but I could not. I had to come home”*

(Pacific caregiver)

# Ethnicity and hospital experience

*“...it’s kind of like when you go in there you just feel the stigma. I think that’s me more my personal um feeling about it all was just the stigma of being a Pacific Islander with all these other Pacific Islanders and being lumped into the same, just one of the statistics being admitted to hospital. That’s what really got me and I hated it”.*

(Pacific caregiver)

*“I started getting a bit paranoid because I was thinking I wonder if these Palagi [NZ European] nurses are looking at me going, ‘I wonder if this is one of those cases where they’ve, where the mother’s broken the arm”*

(Pacific caregiver)

*“... We couldn’t wait to get out of there. I said ‘I need to go home’. She [nurse] said ‘You’re not going to stay for breakfast?’ ‘No, I just need to go home’*

(Maori caregiver)

- Ancillary and cultural support and other resources (parking / food vouchers) – unevenly distributed

*“.... Cause my husband has been in and out of hospital so often. I know now that if you want to know anything you’ve got to demand it here and then while they’re in the room....”*

(Maori caregiver)

- Issue of entitlement

# Key informant interviews

- Meeting the child's needs in the context of busy turnover
- Stress of child's hospitalisation on the family
- Staff continuation and coordination
  - “... so at times there are tensions. ‘Is this something that a nurse should do or a physio should do?’”
- Communication
- Issues for Maori and Pacific support services
  - “They [families] often mistake us for social workers and are scared we'll take away their benefit or take away their kids”