OBJECTIVE: The media cover over 1/3 of the requests, for the purpose of writing articles, television and radio broadcasts. Second are requests for research and projects. About 10% of all inquiries are for legislation or standardization work (e.g. children’s toys, dog bites, trampolines), while 7% concern monitoring of specific accidents (e.g. electrical accidents, fireworks, children’s toys). Requests for concrete injury prevention activities or campaigning cover 10%.

WHO IS REQUIRING INJURY DATA AND ANALYSES FROM THE INJURY REGISTER IN DENMARK AND FOR WHAT PURPOSES?
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BACKGROUND

The Danish Injury Register collects data on all injuries from emergency departments of five Danish hospitals. The catchment areas of these hospitals constitute a representative sample of approximately 17% of the Danish population.

METHODS

The Register is well known in Denmark and a large variety of stakeholders are frequently using the register and the expertise of the staff at NIPH. These requests and answers have been filed consistently throughout the years. Answers and data deliveries during the period 2003-2005 have been analysed and categorized with regards to ‘users’, ‘subjects of the inquiries’ and purpose.

RESULTS

USERS: The number of requests in the period 2003-2005 amounted to 328. The primary users of data are the Danish media (32.6%) covering national and regional newspapers, television stations, trade papers and professional journals, radio stations and web magazines. Secondly, Danish authorities (22.5%) incl. both government departments and regional and local authorities. The National Consumer Agency and the Danish Safety Technology Authority have been the most diligent users. See figure 1.

SUBJECTS: The most frequently demanded singular subjects are injuries in the home and during leisure activity incl. sports. See figure 2.

CONCLUSION

Data from the Injury Register have been used for a variety of purposes by a wide range of stakeholders, not least the media. This has raised the awareness of the “injury problem” especially home and leisure injuries and their prevention. The register helps to spot harmful products and adverse developments, which need attention.

The many inquiries on children’s injuries and product related injuries point to the fact that the Injury Register is one of the few sources of detailed information on these injuries.

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Across these, one third of the inquiries concern children’s injuries. Request on product related injuries account for 35% of all. Figure 3 indicates the most frequent types of products.

PURPOSE: The media cover over 1/3 of the requests, for the purpose of writing articles, television and radio broadcast. Second are requests for research and projects. About 10% of all inquiries are for legislation or standardization work (e.g. children’s toys, dog bites, trampolines), while 7% concern monitoring of specific accidents (e.g. electrical accidents, fireworks, children’s toys). Requests for concrete injury prevention activities or campaigning cover 10%.