

Appendix 1 - SAN2404 Downwash Incidents

Ref	Incident Date	Reporting Health Board	Hospital	Injury	Detail
1	05/04/2019	Grampian	Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital - N121H	Minor injury reported	While I was walking to my car after work I walked along the temporary pathway opposite the helipad. A helicopter came and seemed to hover for some time at which point the dust / grit was blown about and then two of the temporary metal barriers (roadside) blew over into me and knocked me into the metal fence. I sustained a small cut to a finger, broke a nail on another and hurt my left neck and left side of back during fall. I think someone needs to secure the barriers during building works as if this happened whilst a child was walking by it could have been more serious. I still have discomfort in my neck.
2	22/10/2013	Grampian	Royal Aberdeen Children's Hospital - N121H	No injury reported	Patient's mother parked car in car park near to RACH, helicopter landed and blew up lots of debris, smashing the rear windscreen and denting panels on the car. THE TIME AND DATE OF THE INCIDENT ARE APPROX
3	25/01/2018	Highland	Raigmore Hospital	No injury reported	Coastguard helicopter 951 came into land and the downdraught Blew an empty stroller from the cfhs car park onto the helipad & coastguard 951 had to abort landing.
4	29/05/2023	Highland	Raigmore Hospital	No injury reported	I was driving towards the breast centre car park from the direction of the ambulance station to return to work after a break. I did not notice the lights for the helicopter were flashing, but a van in front of me had stopped just past the lights so I stopped behind him. I didn't go to reverse as there was a van behind me. There was a security guard at the junction of the road I was on + the road coming from the main entrance of the hospital, but I couldn't see any other security guard. After a few minutes the helicopter started to fly upwards and backwards so it was above my car. The temporary construction fencing at this part of the road fell on my car.
5	29/05/2023	Highland	Raigmore Hospital	No injury reported	While the helicopter was in at Raigmore it had landed and it was taking off from the helipad and with the down draft from it caused the fencing by the lights to blow over on to a car that had gone through the lights.
6	27/09/2020	SAS	Unknown but recorded as North Region	No injury reported	high winds and downdraft from coastguard helicopter are a major issue with visors and safety glasses. one crew member had glasses blown off face. had to hold visor in place with one hand
7	25/01/2018	SAS	Raigmore Hospital	No injury reported	(Datix raised as near miss for serious injury and possible local press interest) The Search and Rescue helicopter was coming in to land at Raigmore helipad with a patient (shoulder injury only). A mother with a child in a pushchair was about 80m from the helipad, in a car park - the downdraft from the helicopter blew the pushchair from the car park, across the grass, and all the way to the helipad (distance of approx. 80m) in a few seconds. Miraculously the pushchair stayed upright the full way and the child wasn't injured. The helicopter pilot saw the incident and aborted the landing. The 2 security guards present were stopping traffic on the road, but there is no-one available to cover the far side of the site where pedestrians are. (If required, footage may be accessible from the front facing camera on xxx, the ambulance waiting at the helipad to collect the patient).
8	07/08/2009	SAS	Crosshouse Hospital	No injury reported	we were waiting at crosshouse heli pad for the sea king to arrive with patient for crosshouse. as the sea king was landing a man was walking in the car park with a very small child the down draft from the sea king lifted the small child up into the air but for the quick action from the father the child was like a kite if when we get notified again about the sea king arriving security officers at the hospital should keep the car park next to the helipad clear.
9	29/10/2011	SAS	Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh	No injury reported	Whilst attending the helipad at Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh at 0320 hours a sea king helicopter came into land. This aircraft has enormous down draft and whilst landing blew my glasses off causing irreparable damage.

Notes

- Incident ref 3 is likely to be a duplicate of incident ref 7 (identical date and hospital), although there are discrepancies in the incident detail (one reported by Grampian and the other by SAS)
- Incident ref 4 and 5 are likely the same incident reported by 2 different people (identical reporting Health Board, date, hospital)