

Appendix 2. Clinic-, general practitioner- and child-level factors associated with onward referral at clinic visits

Factors	No. clinic visits	No. referred (%)	Risk ratio (95% CI)	P value
Clinic-level factors				
General practice billing type				
Bulk billing	35,466	3140 (9)	1 (Reference)	
Mixed billing	2519	524 (21)	1.53 (0.98–2.40)	0.060
Private billing	5316	756 (14)	1.72 (1.23–2.39)	0.001
GP-level factors				
Sex				
Male	22,690	1639 (7)	1 (Reference)	
Female	16,432	2275 (14)	1.30 (1.12–1.52)	0.001
Missing	5202			
Years of practice				
<6	5239	524 (10)	1 (Reference)	
6–15	19,110	1600 (8)	0.77 (0.64–0.92)	0.005
>15	14,635	1780 (12)	1.05 (0.83–1.34)	0.676
Missing	5340			
No. children seen per week				
<11	1887	268 (14)	1 (Reference)	
11–20	13,063	1367 (10)	0.75 (0.56–1.00)	0.051
>20	24,034	2269 (9)	0.72 (0.56–0.92)	0.009
Missing	5340			
Formal paediatric training				
Yes	13,194	1530 (12)	1 (Reference)	
No	25,790	2374 (9)	0.89 (0.72–1.12)	0.322
Missing	5340			
Regular use of HealthPathways				
Strongly disagree/disagree	20,210	2180 (11)	1 (Reference)	
Strongly agree/agree	16,931	1701 (10)	0.89 (0.72–1.10)	0.297
Missing	7193			
Factors related to referral				
I wanted a second opinion to confirm a diagnosis				
Rarely (<10%)	12,435	1031 (8)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	16,288	1872 (11)	0.97 (0.75–1.26)	0.837
Frequently (51–90%)	8640	942 (11)	0.84 (0.62–1.13)	0.251
Almost always (>90%)	1621	59 (4)	0.67 (0.27–1.66)	0.388
Missing	5340			

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Appendix 2. Clinic-, general practitioner- and child- level factors associated with onward referral at clinic visits (cont'd)

Factors	No. clinic visits	No. referred (%)	Risk ratio (95% CI)	P value
I believed that a paediatrician would better manage the child's condition				
Rarely (<10%)	605	107 (18)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	14,384	1454 (10)	0.56 (0.39–0.80)	0.002
Frequently (51–90%)	18,497	1826 (10)	0.60 (0.42–0.87)	0.006
Almost always (>90%)	5498	517 (9)	0.73 (0.45–1.17)	0.187
Missing	5340			
The child needed to undergo a procedure that is only provided by a paediatrician				
Rarely (<10%)	2596	238 (9)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	6536	985 (15)	1.67 (1.18–2.38)	0.004
Frequently (51–90%)	11,249	1005 (9)	1.54 (1.09–2.18)	0.014
Almost always (>90%)	18,603	1676 (9)	1.37 (0.95–1.98)	0.090
Missing	5340			
A parent requested I refer their child for an initial consultation				
Rarely (<10%)	5063	378 (7)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	20,476	2241 (11)	1.08 (0.77–1.51)	0.660
Frequently (51–90%)	10,351	962 (9)	1.01 (0.75–1.37)	0.942
Almost always (>90%)	3048	314 (10)	1.00 (0.69–1.46)	0.984
Missing	5387			
A parent requested I renew a referral because a paediatrician requested a return				
Rarely (<10%)	493	50 (10)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	8710	1321 (15)	1.52 (0.71–3.25)	0.281
Frequently (51–90%)	17,279	1372 (8)	1.46 (0.61–3.49)	0.397
Almost always (>90%)	12,502	1161 (9)	1.46 (0.64–3.36)	0.371
Missing	5340			
A parent requested I renew a referral because they wanted to continue care				
Rarely (<10%)	2122	142 (7)	1 (Reference)	
Sometimes (10–50%)	15,241	1792 (12)	1.00 (0.74–1.34)	0.994
Frequently (51–90%)	11,226	985 (9)	1.04 (0.78–1.38)	0.800
Almost always (>90%)	10,395	985 (9)	0.87 (0.61–1.23)	0.421
Missing	5340			
Child-level factors				
Child's age	43,301		1.05 (1.04–1.06)	0.000
Child's gender				
Female	21,157	2133 (10)	1 (Reference)	
Male	22,065	2281 (10)	1.09 (1.03–1.16)	0.004
Null/not recorded/other	79	6 (8)	0.68 (0.27–1.72)	0.417

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Appendix 2. Clinic-, general practitioner- and child- level factors associated with onward referral at clinic visits (cont'd)

Factors	No. clinic visits	No. referred (%)	Risk ratio (95% CI)	P value
Child's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status				
Aboriginal/Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander	330	42 (13)	1 (Reference)	
Neither Aboriginal nor Torres Strait Islander	33,147	3375 (10)	0.86 (0.61–1.22)	0.395
Not recorded/Not provided	9824	1003 (10)	0.83 (0.58–1.19)	0.310
Child's SEIFA IRSAD quintile				
1	688	59 (9)	1 (Reference)	
2	1557	162 (10)	1.33 (0.91–1.94)	0.137
3	18,134	1238 (7)	1.23 (0.90–1.67)	0.190
4	6810	687 (10)	1.13 (0.82–1.57)	0.456
5	15,717	2240 (14)	1.17 (0.84–1.63)	0.345
Missing	434			

CI, confidence interval; GP, general practitioner; IRSAD, Index of Relative Socio-economic Advantage and Disadvantage; SEIFA, Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas.