

15 January 2018

Ryde's holiday wrap up

The summer holidays are often the busiest period of the year for emergency departments, with 818 presentations recorded at Ryde Hospital between this Christmas and New Year.

The busiest day over the period was Boxing Day, with a total of 106 presentations, and quietest was Christmas Day with 72. New Year's Day was slightly busier than average with 97 presentations.

"We think this might be because people don't want disrupt their family's plans on Christmas Day and New Year's Eve and hold off getting medical attention," said Drew Roberts, Deputy Director of Nursing at Ryde Hospital.

"There is also the fact that many GP clinics are closed over the holiday period so we see a lot of minor injuries and illnesses."

Featured heavily over the holiday period were cat and dog bites, gastro cases and lacerations to do with food preparation or DIY activities.

"We do see a lot of gastro cases each year and this holiday period has been no different. It's likely that poor food handling and leaving food out too long in the heat play a large part in this," Drew said.

Drew also reminds parents to keep a close eye on their children who accounted for 14 per cent of ED presentations

"If you are planning on spending time by the pool or at the beach, be vigilant when children are around the water. We saw a case where a child did a backflip into the pool and ended up in ED with a head injury."

"Regardless of time of year, Ryde Hospital ED is here for you 24/7 with an excellent team of doctors and nurses here to help you and your loved ones," he said.