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**THE IMPACT OF THE UK NATIONAL 'SAFE AT
HOME' SAFETY EQUIPMENT SCHEME ON HOSPITAL
ADMISSIONS FOR CHILDHOOD INJURIES**

Dr Elizabeth Orton
University of Nottingham, UK
Elizabeth.orton@nottingham.ac.uk

NIHR | School for Primary
Care Research



Background

Avoidable injuries
are a significant
health burden

- Disproportionate effect on:
 - Children under 5 in the home
 - Poorer households



Safe at Home
safety equipment
scheme

- Government funded national scheme in England
- Managed by RoSPA*
- 2009-2011
- £14m UKP
- Aimed at households
 - Children <5yrs
 - Low income
 - High injury rate areas



Independent
Evaluation

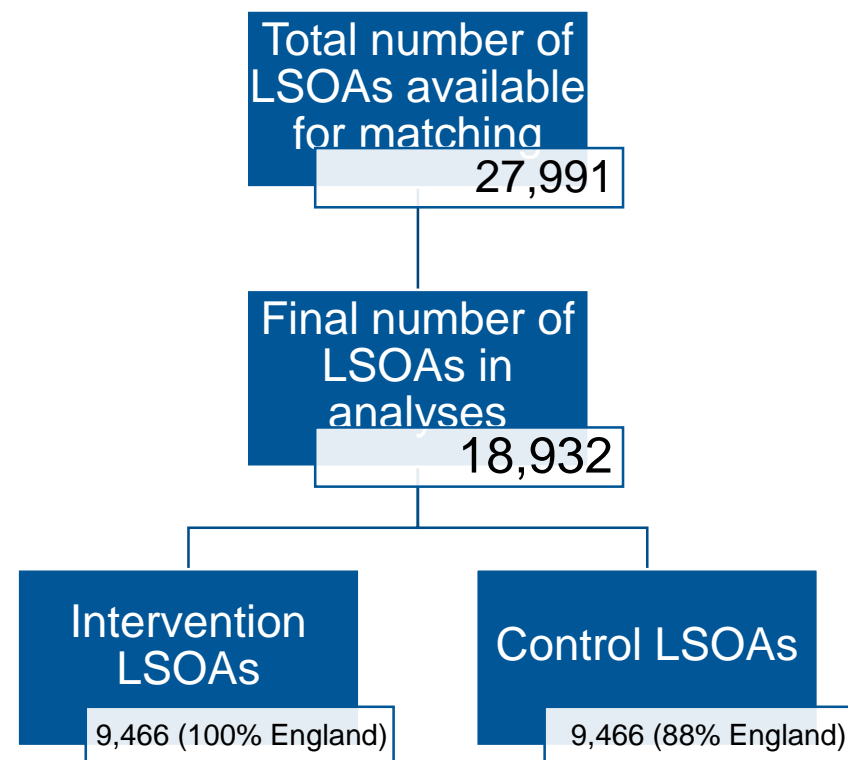
- Mixed methods
- Effectiveness, efficiency, acceptability
- Good reach
- Costs quantified
- Acceptable to families and professionals
- But unknown impact on injury rates



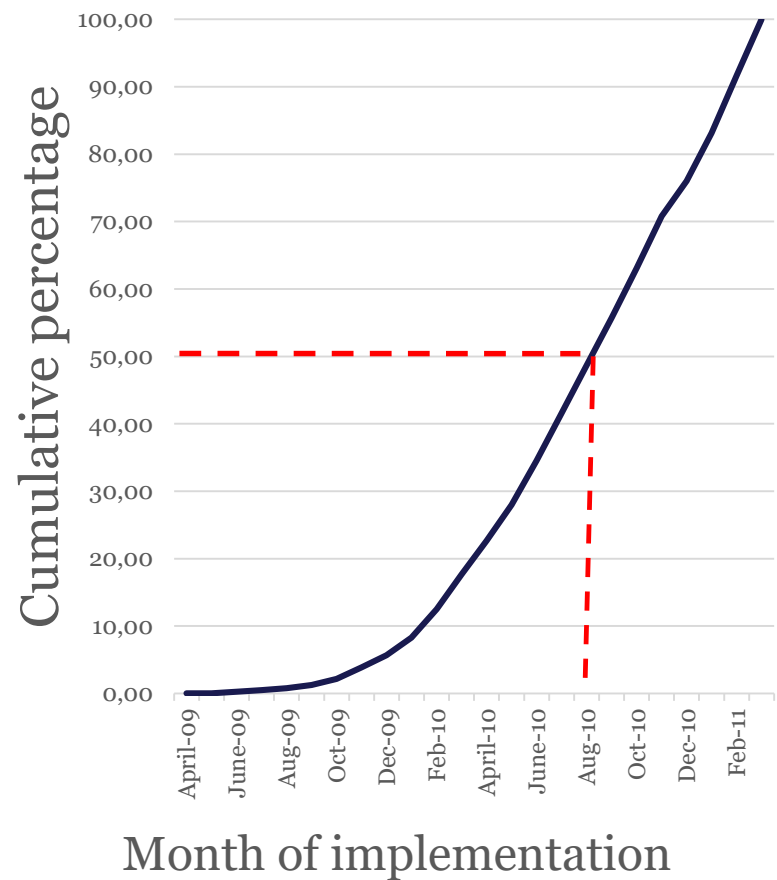
*Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents

- Mapped equipment fitting data onto small geographical areas of 1000-3000 people*
- Identified control LSOAs (no scheme in England or from Wales)
- Propensity score matched controls/intervention 1:1

*Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs)

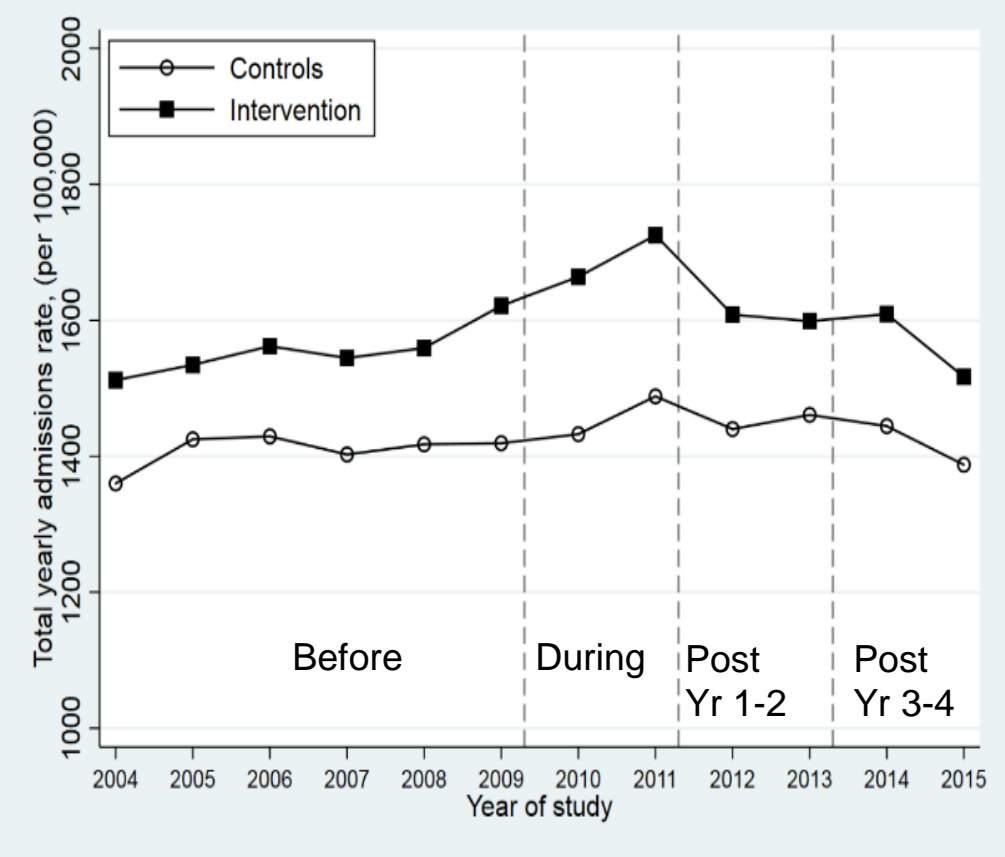


cumulative percentage of installations



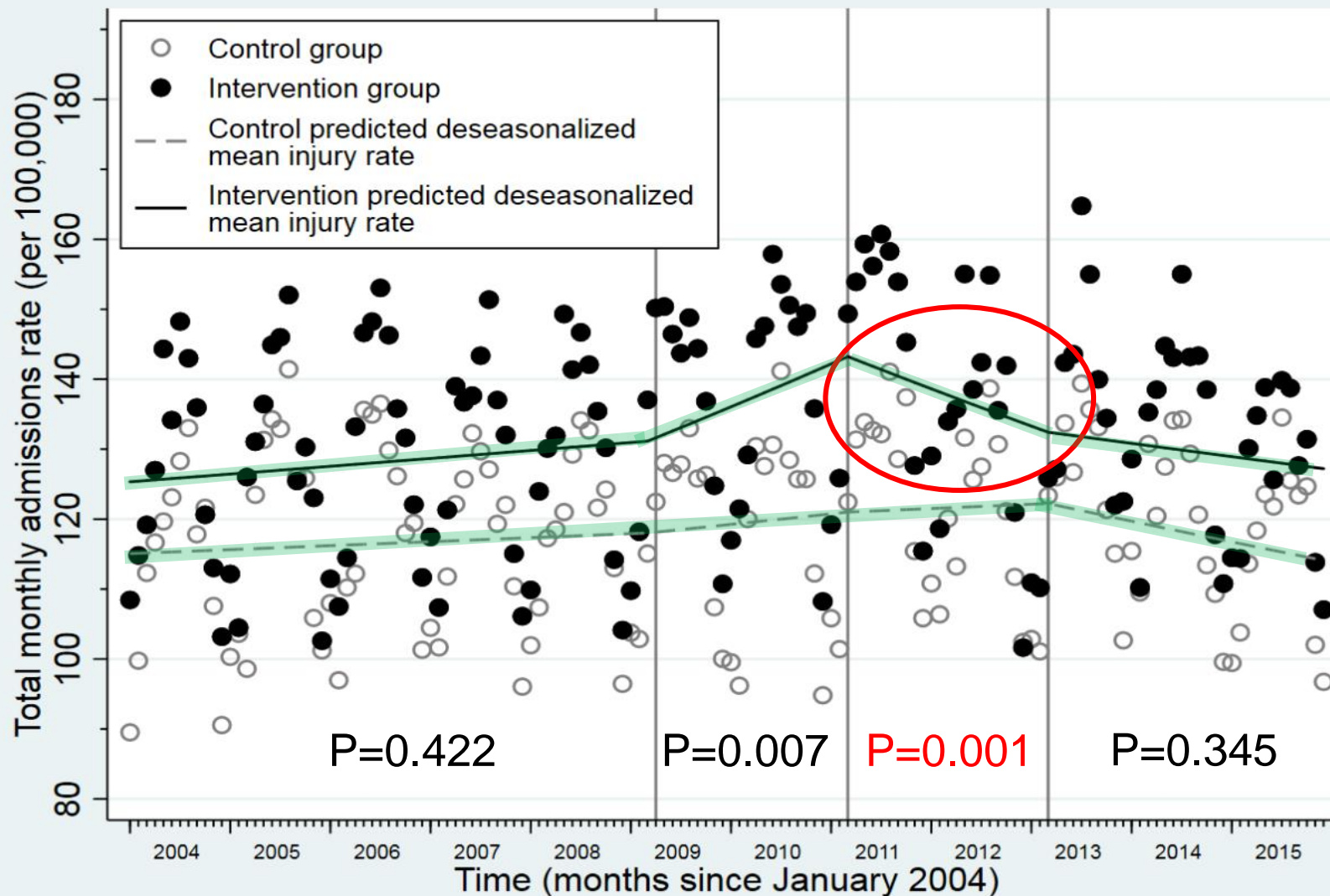
Type of safety equipment	Number (%) of families provided with each type of equipment	Total number of items provided (% of total)
Any safety equipment	64,590 (97.9%)	493,510 (100.0%)
Safety gate	56,894 (86.2%)	106,986 (21.7%)
Cupboard locks	51,459 (78.0%)	92,287 (18.7%)
Window restrictors	24,773 (37.6%)	88,638 (18.0%)
Corner cushions	44,404 (67.3%)	80,683 (16.3%)
Bath/shower mat	54,188 (82.1%)	54,432 (11.0%)
Fire guard	34,009 (51.6%)	35,852 (7.3%)
Cord winders	18,670 (28.3%)	34,632 (7.0%)
No equipment (advice only)	1,380 (2.1%)	0 (0.0%)

Yearly injury rates in SAH and control areas from 2004 to 2015



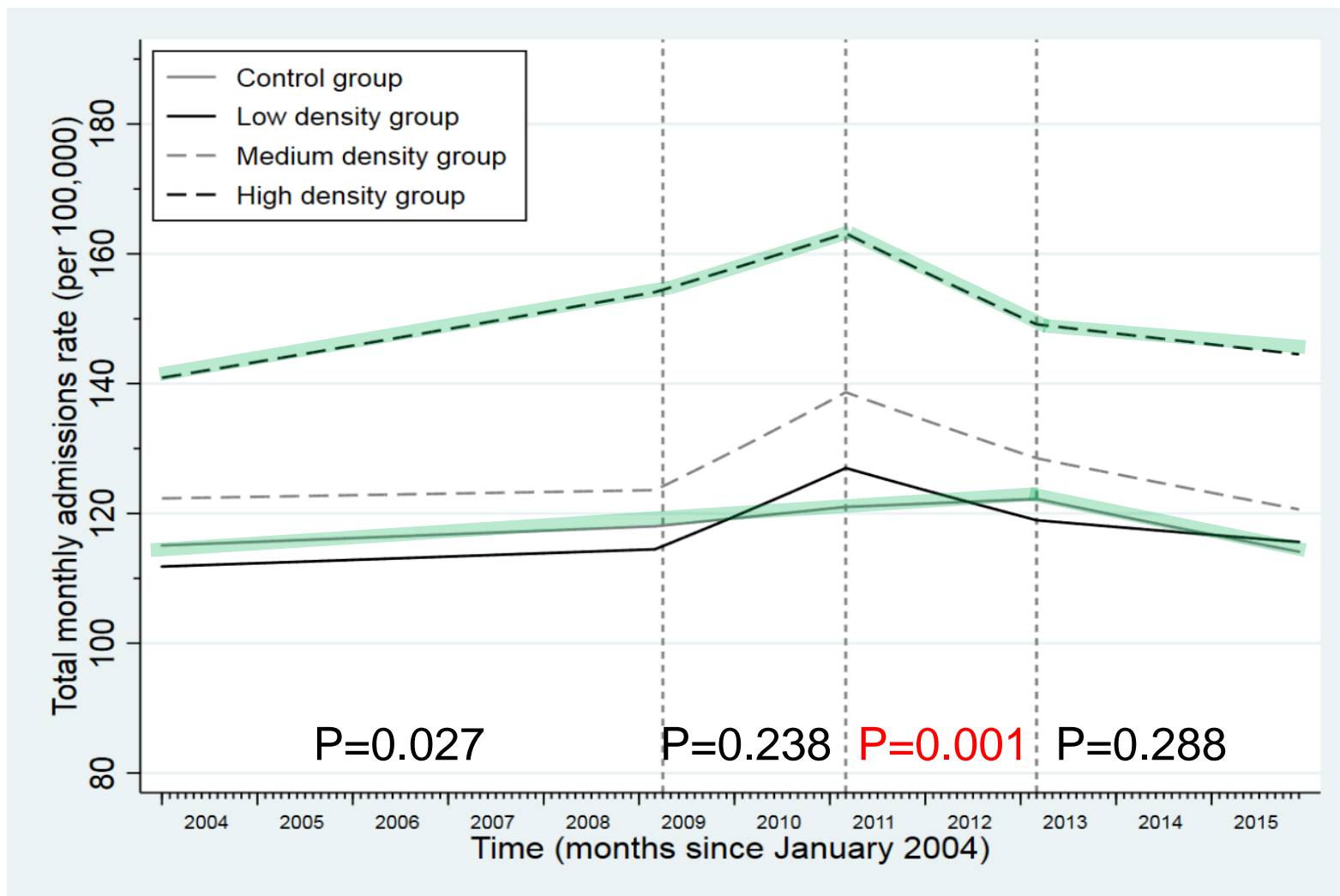
Baseline (Jan 2004- March 2009)	Intervention	Control
Mean population of 0-4 year olds	942,391	911,097
Mean percentage of population (male)	51.2	51.2
Age at hospital admission		
0	13,618 (17.9)	12,499 (18.7)
1	20,235 (26.6)	17,715 (26.4)
2	17,691 (23.2)	15,330 (22.9)
3	13,394 (17.6)	11,487 (17.1)
4	10,801 (14.2)	9,669 (14.4)
5	390 (0.5)	315 (0.5)

Deseasonalised trends in injury rates before, during and after the SAH scheme in SAH and control areas





By equipment density



- Provision of home safety equipment + advice is associated with a significant reduction in hospital admissions (injury) in children under 5
- Reduction in injury rates is not maintained 2 years after the scheme has ended
- Economic evaluation ongoing

Recommendation:

Sufficient evidence to support funding of targeted schemes

Acknowledgments

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