



# Reasons for Encounter



## Data:

- 2 years
- 26,452 Reasons for Encounter (RFE)
- 19,766 Patient GP Consultations
- 3,771 Patients
- 496 Different ICPC-2 Codes
- 1 Senior Male GP
- 1 Senior Female GP
- GP training registrars (Male and Female)

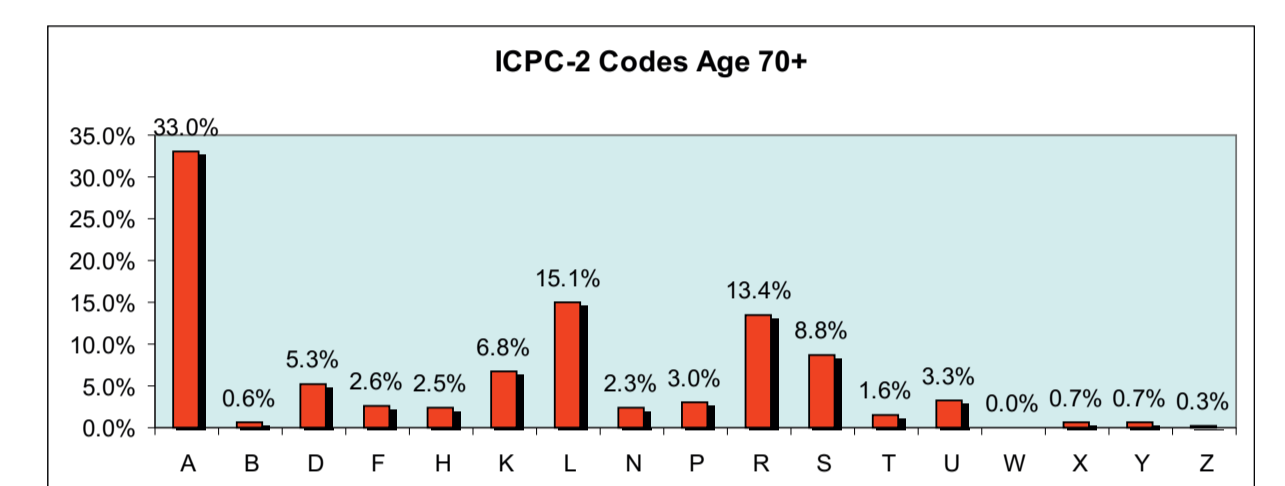
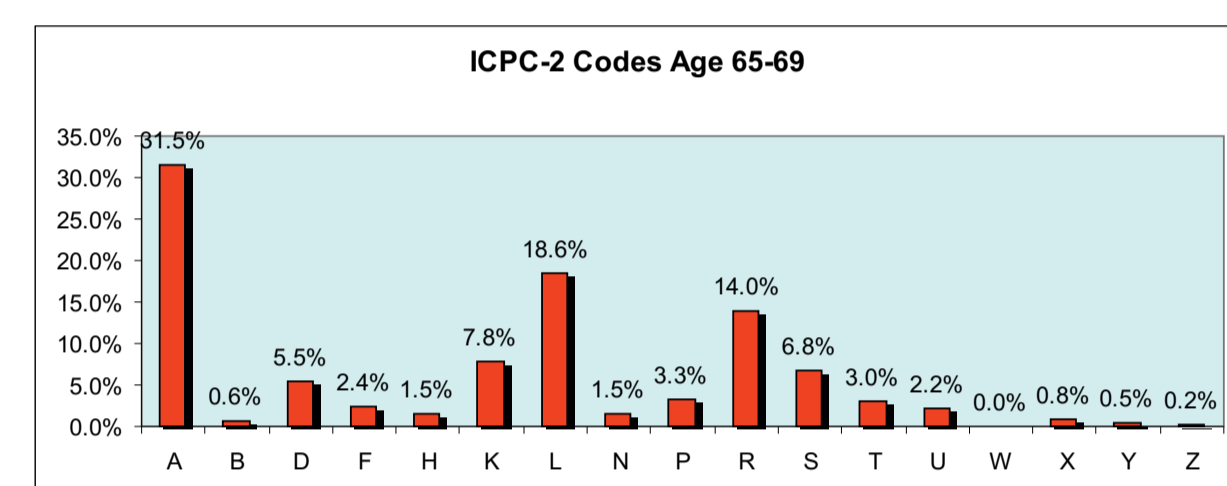
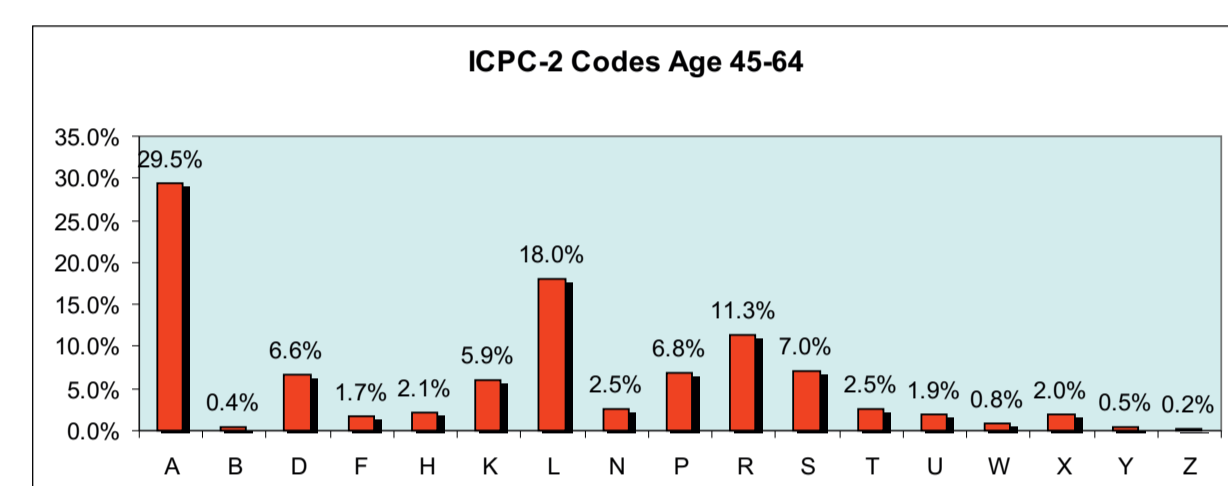
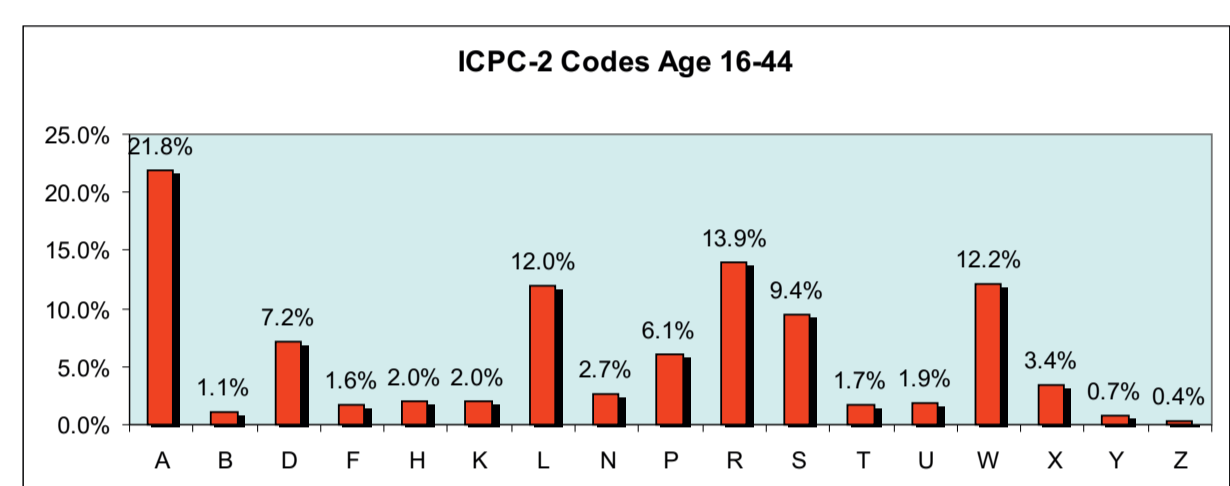
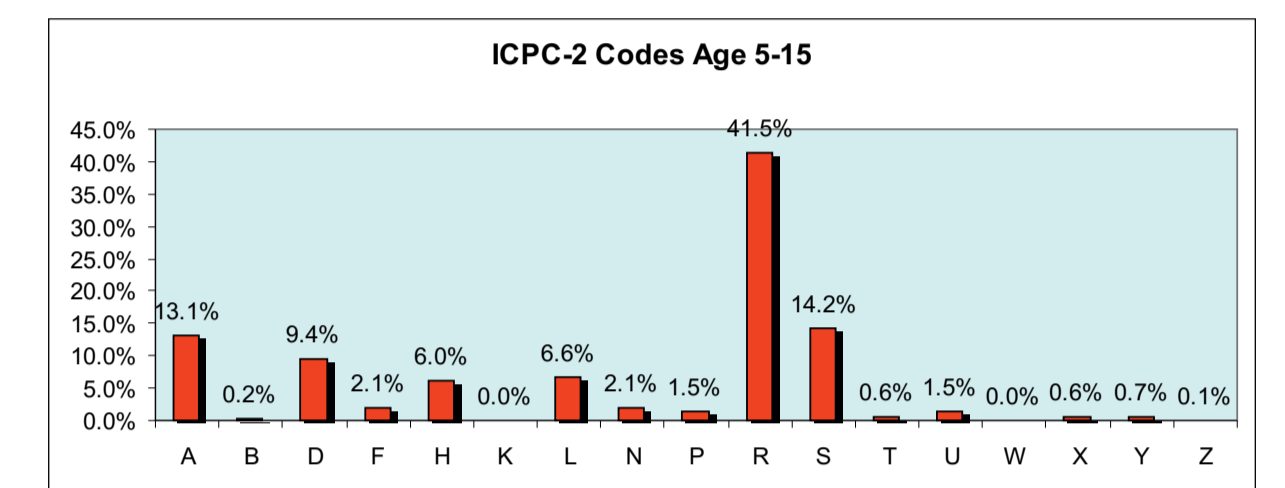
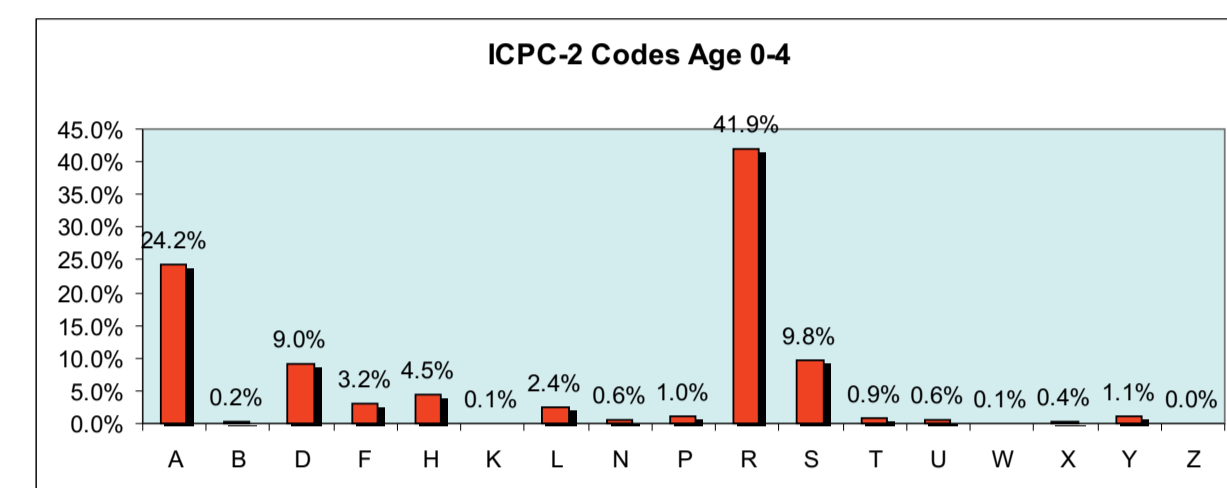
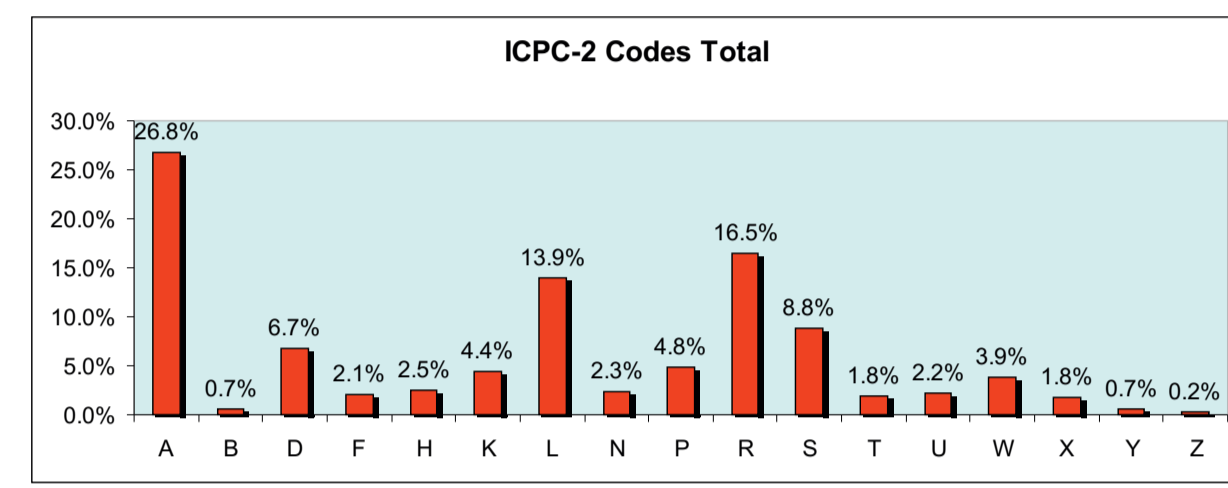
## Methodology:

A conscious decision was made by several GP's in the MPHCC to record Reasons for Encounter for every Patient they would see as a matter of good practice. Also examinations, prescriptions, notes and diagnosis were grouped under specific reasons if there was more than one reason per encounter, thus enabling a clearer view of the patient record. Nurses did not participate. Diagnoses are not included.

## Analysis:

The age of the patient at each encounter was grouped into the GMS categories of 0-4, 5-15, 16-44, 45-64, 65-69 and 70+. Each reason was also group by it's ICPC-2 body system. The distribution of Systems within each age group were plotted.

A - General/unspecified	S - Skin	<b>LEGEND</b>
B - Blood/blood forming organs/immune mechanism	T - Endocrine/metabolic/nutritional	
D - Digestive	U - Urinary system	
F - Eye	W - Pregnancy, childbearing, family planning	
H - Ear	X - Female genital system including breast	
K - Circulatory	Y - Male genital system including breast	
L - Musculoskeletal	Z - Social problems	
N - Neurological		
P - Psychological		
R - Respiratory		



## Findings:

- 1) Number of reason per consultation is equal for Public and Private Patients.
- 2) Largest presentation is for Respiratory which is greatest in the 0-15 age group.
- 3) The distribution of RFE is consistent for 0-15 (Respiratory, Skin, Digestive) and is also consistent from 45+ (Musculoskeletal, Respiratory, Skin, Circulatory, Digestive) while 16-44 is a transition.

## Prevalence Ratio:

By assuming that the age distribution of patients where RFEs are recorded is the same as the age distribution of patients visiting their GP in the area and by using 2011 Cork County Census age distribution we have estimated the prevalence ratio between age groups of each system. This is the likelihood that a person in one age group will attend for the same type of problem as a person from another group. This is displayed as a percentage. If for example in the RFE "R" (Respiratory), age group 0-4 has 22.3% and age group 45-64 has 10.6% then there is a slightly more than a 2 to 1 ratio. The Prevalence ratios have been plotted for each body system.

## References:

ICPC-2 Coding system  
2011 Census Cork  
WORLD ORGANIZATION OF FAMILY DOCTORS AN INTRODUCTION TO THE INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF PRIMARY CARE Version 2 (Multiple Reports)

