

**FIGURE 1: Risk factors for respiratory hospital admissions for young people (1-26 years) with cerebral palsy.**

**RED FLAGS**



**Gross Motor Function Classification System (GMFCS) Level V**  
 IRR\* = 23.25 (95% CI: 10.46 to 51.70)



**At least one respiratory hospital admission in the last year**  
 IRR\* = 11.8 (95% CI: 5.6 to 24.7)



**At least 2 courses of antibiotics for respiratory illness in the last year**  
 IRR\* = 5.9 (95% CI: 3.0 to 11.6)

**POTENTIALLY MODIFIABLE FACTORS**



**Oropharyngeal dysphagia**  
 (requires food or drinks with modified texture OR uses a tube OR coughs and chokes on saliva)  
 IRR\* = 12.7 (95% CI: 7.3 to 22.1)



**Frequent respiratory symptoms**  
 (daily cough OR weekly sounding chesty or phlegmy or wheezy)  
 IRR\* = 9.4 (95% CI: 3.5 to 25.8)



**Mealtime respiratory symptoms when well**  
 (gurgly voice, wheezing, coughing, sneezing, choking)  
 IRR\* = 3.8 (95% CI: 2.1 to 7.1)



**Gastro-oesophageal reflux disease**  
 (now or previously)  
 IRR\* = 3.4 (95% CI: 1.8 to 6.3)



**Current seizures**  
 ed texture OR uses a tube OR coughs  
 IRR\* = 7.6 (95% CI: 4.2 to 13.8)



**Snoring every night**  
 n saliva)  
 IRR\* = 2.8 (95% CI: 1.3 to 6.1)

\* IRR (Incidence Rate Ratio) indicates the expected magnitude of the respiratory hospital admission rate of a 5-year period when the risk factor is present versus when it is absent. e.g., Young people with CP classified as GMFCS V are expected to have a respiratory hospital admission rate about 23 times greater than those classified GMFCS I to IV over a 5-year period.

Blackmore AM, Bear N, Langdon K, Moshovis L, Gibson N, Wilson AC. Respiratory hospital admissions and emergency department visits in young people with cerebral palsy: 5-year follow up. *Archives of Disease in Childhood* 2019. 745-771.

<https://adc.bmj.com/content/early/2019/06/29/archdischild-2019-3177>

