

BACKGROUND

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) recently reviewed the case of a 12-year-old male who died in July 2024. The child will be known as Child 1 throughout this briefing.

Child 1 and his family had moved to the UK in December 2022. In April 2023 the Child 1 presented to the local hospital in sickle cell crisis.

Child 1 later died from sepsis and sickle cell disease following a further admission to hospital after becoming unwell at home in July 2024.

ANALYSIS

During the Child Death Review process, it was determined that Child 1 had not been registered at a GP practice after his arrival to the UK in December 2022.

Child 1 was only registered at GP practice following his admission to hospital in April 2023. Until this time he was not known to health service despite having several medical conditions. The family spoke English at home; therefore, it was identified that language was not a barrier.

THEMES

Child 1 had multiple medical conditions requiring regular treatment.

Child 1 had not been registered a GP practice on entry to the UK.

Following attendance at the Emergency Department of a local hospital appropriate, ongoing medical care was offered to the child and accepted by parents.

LEARNING

A significant number of families come into the UK from other countries and their first presentation to health services may be through A&E for their complex health conditions.

There is little information regarding the experiences of children and young people (CYP) who migrate with pre-existing chronic illnesses. This is explained by assumptions suggesting that migrants are young, healthy and able-bodied, who rarely use health services.

SUPPORT AND USEFUL LINKS

[NHS entitlements: migrant health guide - GOV.UK](#)

[NHS advice and guidance | Shropshire Council](#)

[Your GP Practice - NHS Shropshire, Telford and Wrekin](#)

[Home - Refugee and Migrant Centre \(RMC\)](#)

[Early help | Shropshire Council](#)

[Telford & Wrekin Council | Family Connect](#)

Child Death Overview Panel Learning Briefing



ACTIONS

Alert sent to National Child Mortality Database with the aim of ensuring migrant families are aware that they need to register with a GP once in the UK.

7-minute learning briefing completed and disseminated across Shropshire Telford and Wrekin to ensure professionals signpost families to services for support/GP registration.

LEARNING CONTINUED

Education is imperative to ensure this will be flagged nationally to prevent people missing GP registration on UK arrival.

Professionals should signpost migrants and refugees to services who can support them and explain the importance of GP registration for all family members.