**7-year-old child dies after being struck by lightning in Harding, southern KZN [South Africa]**

By Thami Magubane Feb 17, 2022

<https://www.iol.co.za/mercury/news/7-year-old-child-dies-after-being-struck-by-lightning-in-harding-southern-kzn-a5821188-842c-4697-b509-aa714c8a0510>

Event 1

Durban – A 7-year-old girl died when she was struck by lightning in Harding, in southern KwaZulu-Natal, on Wednesday. The child was one of four people, from the same house, that was struck by lightning during a thunderstorm. The others include her two siblings and their stepmother One, an 11-year-old, sustained a serious arm injury while the stepmother suffered an injury to her leg. The second child, 4, is still in hospital. The incident happened in ward 9, in Esitezi. Ward 9 councillor Nkosi Sigwebela, who visited the family, said he was told that the family was at home when they were struck by lightning. They cannot be identified as the biological mother of the children has yet to be informed of the tragedy. She lives in Durban. “They said they saw a flash of light through the window, and that was the last thing that they saw. It dislodged some of the bricks in the house. “We have seen the 11-year-old child, the arm is seriously injured and the child says it's very painful when you touch it,” he said. Sigwebela said the area had been hit by a fierce thunderstorm on Wednesday. “The thunderstorm was terrible, every time there are those kinds of thunderstorms we know that it is going to cause extensive damage.”

Event 2

He said that earlier this year, two boys were struck by lightning as they were running home to escape a thunderstorm.