

# Feelings and Experiences of Public Health Nurses Surrounding Pediatric Injury Prevention Education

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10 Leading Causes of Death, United States 2005, All Races, Both Sexes

Rank	Age Groups	
	<1	1-18
1	Congenital Anomalies 6,562	Unintentional Injury 3,328
2	Short Gestation 4,714	Homicide 2,382
3	SIDS 2,230	Malignant Neoplasms 1,930
4	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 1,776	Suicide 1,222
5	Placenta Cord Membranes 1,190	Congenital Anomalies 1,177
6	Unintentional Injury 1,083	Heart Disease 874
7	Respiratory Disease 860	Influenza & Pneumonia 270
8	Bacterial Sepsis 834	Septicemia 212
9	Neonatal Hemorrhage 805	Cerebrovascular 211
10	Neonatal Encephalopathy 646	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 205

## Background-MCH Concern

Among children age 1-18, unintentional injury is the leading cause of morbidity and mortality.

- In 2005: 8,856 fatalities & over 8 million nonfatal unintentional injuries<sup>1</sup>.

Among infants (<age 1), unintentional injury is the 6th leading cause of mortality.

- In 2005: 1,083 fatalities & over 800,000 nonfatal unintentional injuries<sup>1</sup>.

## Unintentional Injury is Preventable

### Current Literature

Injury prevention counseling by health care providers works to:

- Increase the number of safety measures implemented at home
- Decrease the rate of childhood injuries<sup>2,3,4</sup>

Injury prevention counseling is provided to *less than 50%* of all US children & families<sup>3,5</sup>

Many barriers to pediatric injury prevention by primary care providers have been identified, including<sup>6,7</sup>:

- Inadequate training &/or knowledge
- Lack of time
- Practice Setting
- Lack of confidence
- Not expected

## Gap in Current Literature

What is the role of Public Health Nurses (PHN) in Injury Prevention Education?

- Currently there is a gap in the knowledge base surrounding the practices, attitudes and potential barriers to injury prevention counseling.
- Scarcity of conceptual models in literature that describe PHN experience of injury prevention education

## Why Public Health Nurses?

- PHN are in strategic position to influence the problem
- Health promotion and prevention of illness, injury and disability is a core function of PH nursing
- There is evidence that home-visiting PHN can positively affect the rates of injury through targeted prevention efforts

## Specific Aims:

This qualitative study will seek to:

- Describe the attitudes of PHN surrounding injury prevention education
- Explore and possibly identify perceived barriers to injury prevention education
- Expand knowledge to develop a conceptual model related to PHN injury prevention education



## Approach

### Study Design

- Descriptive, qualitative design based in tradition of grounded theory.
- Semi-structured Interview

### Sample

- 10-15 PHN from Public Health- Seattle & King County and Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Centers

### Methods of Procedure

- Recruitment via email with follow-up phone calls
- Interviews will be approx. 45 min long, be held at a time & place convenient to participant.
- All interviews will be audio-recorded
- Interview protocol of primarily open-ended questions

### Methods of Analysis

Open, axial, and selective coding to uncover themes and develop conceptual model

## Public Health Implications

Public health nurses are in an important position to positively affect injury prevention measures undertaken by individuals, families and communities. Development of a conceptual model of the experiences of PHNs and injury prevention will be a needed resource for education of PHNs in injury prevention.

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