

injuries. Future directions include an anti-bullying project in a grade school in our community and collaboration with community policing efforts.

Learning Objectives: Describe youth risks for interpersonal violence; Identify multidisciplinary services for youth at-risk; Outline measures for successful intervention.

Poster 2833

Childhood Interrupted: Injury Deaths Among American Indian and Alaska Native Children in the First Decade of Life

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Background/Objectives: Injuries take a disproportionate toll on American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) children. To understand the injury risks that children face at different ages, we looked at the ten leading causes of injury by month of death for infants and age of death by year for ages 1-9 years.

Methods: Fatal injuries among AI/AN aged 0-9 years, were from NCHS mortality data, 1989-1998. Causes of death were defined by the ICD, Ninth Revision, and External Cause Codes. NCHS mortality data characterized by Indian Health Service area were used to calculate IHS rates. National injury rates were calculated using CDC's WISQARS.

Results: Unintentional suffocation was the leading cause of AI/AN injury death from birth to seven months old, with the greatest number of deaths occurring in the first month of life. Homicide was the leading cause of injury death at eight months and the second leading cause overall among infants. For one year olds, the leading cause was motor vehicle nontraffic pedestrian incidents. Homicides and drowning more frequently occurred to children one and two years of age. Fires ranked first or second as the leading cause of injury death for ages two through five, and motor vehicle passenger deaths were the leading cause for ages six to nine years. Unintentional injury death rates for AI/AN, all IHS areas combined, were over two times greater than national rates.

Conclusion: Young AI/AN children are particularly vulnerable from injuries due to unintentional suffocation, child maltreatment, pedestrian incidents, residential fires, as well as motor vehicle crashes. Effective prevention strategies need to be targeted to these ages to reduce the burden of injury among AI/AN children.

Learning Objectives: After this session participants should be able to: Describe the leading causes of American Indian/Alaska Native injury death for infants and children less than 10 years old; Understand that children have different injury risks at different ages; Identify homicide and child maltreatment as a leading cause of injury death among infants and very young American Indians/Alaska Natives.

Poster 2834

Psychiatric Disorders and Injury: Effects on Short-Term Disability

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Background/Objectives: The purpose of this study was to examine the effects of psychiatric disorders on disability and quality of life after physical injury.

Methods: Patients presenting to the emergency department for injury were randomly selected to participate in a 12-month longitudinal study. A comprehensive psychiatric evaluation was conducted within 2 weeks of injury using the Structured Clinical Interview for DSM IV-R (SCID). Primary outcomes were disability measured by the Functional Status Questionnaire (FSQ) and quality of life by the Quality of Life Index (QOLI).

Results: 179 subjects had a mean age of 39 years and a mean injury severity score of 4.18. 34% involved motor vehicles, 38% a fall, 10% from assault, 11% household/falling object and 7% from sports. 47.4% were diagnosed with current or past DSM IV-R psychiatric disorders that did not cause exclusion from entry. 136 completed the 3-month evaluation, of which 6.7% had a new major depressive episode; 10.3% had depressive symptoms; 1.5% had post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD); 2.9% had PTSD symptoms; 3% had substance use disorders; 2% had significant substance use symptoms.

injury and violence in america

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