

5051 - Trends in Bullying Perpetration, Victimization, and Medically-Attended Violent Injuries among a Cohort of Children

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9:00 AM - 9:15 AM



Hyatt Regency Denver - Centennial Ballroom A

Session: ICEHS Late Breakers

Program: Injury Control and Emergency Health Services

Abstract

Background: It is well-established that bullying is strongly associated with intentional injury. However, mechanisms of serious violent injuries (weapons and assaults) have been less explored. We aim to describe the trends and dose-response relationships in violent injury among those involved in different forms of bullying. Methods: Data were obtained from Healthy Passages, a cohort of children (n=5,147) followed through 5th, 7th, and 10th grades. Children were categorized into four bullying groups: victim only, perpetrator only, co-occurring victim and perpetrator, and, neither victim nor perpetrator (neutral). Children reported medically-attended violent (firearm, knife, or assault-related) injuries sustained in the past year. Multi-level mixed regression models were used to assess the relationship between bullying group and injury. Results: Seventeen percent (n=857) of 5th graders reported a violent injury (12.5% firearm; 8.4% knife; 3.6% fighting injuries). The prevalence of firearm and knife injuries significantly increased over time, regardless of bullying group. Bully perpetrators were 1.41 times more likely to sustain a violent injury than neutrals; bully victims were 0.84 times less likely to report a violent injury compared to neutrals. A positive dose-response relationship between the number of data collection waves a child reported bully perpetration and violent injuries was observed. Conclusions: Violent injuries increased over time across all children regardless of bullying behavior. Results suggest that the likelihood of violent injury is elevated among children who were perpetrators at multiple time points. Public health prevention efforts should integrate injury and bullying in order to avert the increasing rate of violent injury among children.

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Learning Areas

Learning Objectives

Describe the trends and dose-response relationships in violent injury among those involved in different forms of bullying

Keyword(s)

Youth Violence, Violence & Injury Prevention

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