MOBILIZING PEDIATRICIANS TO REDUCE GUN INJURY AND DEATH

Lauren Brown, MD, MPH; Jennifer Fiore, MD; Eric Fleegler, MD, MPH; Catherine Michelson, MD, MSc; Katherine Nash, MD; Elyse Portillo, MD, MPH; Lauren Veit, MD

Boston Combined Residency Program in Pediatrics
Describe the impact of gun violence on youth in our society

Create tools for educating and empowering residents to screen for gun exposure and provide gun safety anticipatory guidance

Develop advocacy skills to better represent the AAP policy goals around gun safety
WHAT IS YOUR MOTIVATION FOR BEING HERE TODAY?

Text “BCRPCHIEFS” to 22333

Place your cell phone on your table when you have received a message that you have entered Elyse Portillo’s session
What is your motivation for being here today?

Start the presentation to activate live content
If you see this message in presentation mode, install the add-in or get help at PollEv.com/app
AGENDA

Getting on the Same Page

Session #1 - Optimizing Gun Violence Prevention in Resident Continuity Clinics

Session #2 – Optimizing Gun Violence Prevention via Legislative Advocacy
Overview of the Current Status of Gun Safety and Gun Violence in the US
One Week in April, Four Toddlers Shot and Killed Themselves

By JACK HEALY, JULIE BOSMAN, ALAN BLINDER and JULIE TURKEWITZ  MAY 5, 2016

Zia Deshields, 4
Sha’Quille Kornegay, 2
Holston Cole, 3
Kiyon Shelton, 2
Types of violent deaths in U.S.

Violence account for 2.2% of all deaths in U.S.

1 in 5 deaths, ages 15-29, are from firearms.
FIREARM FATALITIES: RACE/ETHNICITY

Male Firearm Homicide

Black males killed 15x higher rate than white males

Male Firearm Suicide

GUNS IN THE U.S.

~310,000,000 guns in the United States

Ownership (PEW 2014):
- White 41%, Black 19%, Hispanic 20%
- Urban 25%, Suburban 36%, Rural 51%
- Republican 49%, Independent 37%, Democrat 22%
- Protection 48%, Hunting 32%, Target shooting 7%

FIREARM FATALITIES (2015)

207 (Mass Shooting)
489 (Unintentional)

36,252 firearm fatalities

12,979 (Homicide)
22,018 (Suicide)

100 Mass Shooting  100 Unintentional  100 Homicides  100 Suicides
**PEDIATRIC FATALITIES (2006-2015)**

**United States:** 69,217  
**California:** 7,958

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age (Years)</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>00-04</td>
<td>513</td>
<td>305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05-09</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-14</td>
<td>1,966</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>2,536</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>4,162</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LETHALITY VARIES BY INTENTION

Unintentional: <5% fatal

Assaults: ~20% fatal

Suicide attempts: 88-90% fatal

GUNS IN THE HOUSE

Do you think having a gun in the house makes it a safer place to be or a more dangerous place to be?

Gallup
**Gunshot Deaths in the Home**

King County, WA 1978-1983

Excluding suicide, members of household 18 times more likely killed than stranger

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Relative Risk</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self-protection homicide</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2.3%</td>
<td>Referent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unintentional deaths</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Criminal homicide</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>10.3%</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>333</td>
<td>83.7%</td>
<td>37.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
<td>0.3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

“SAFE GUN STORAGE LAWS AND CHILD MORTALITY DUE TO FIREARMS”

Pro-gun Florida mom accidentally shot by 4-year-old son after leaving loaded weapon in car, bragging about how tot gets 'gets jacked up' for target practice

BY MEG WAGNER / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS / Updated: Wednesday, March 9, 2016, 2:18 PM

- 16 years of study (1979-1994): 11,918 deaths in U.S. due to firearms among children <15 years
  - 4173 (35%) unintentional
  - 2139 (18%) suicides
  - 5280 (44%) homicides

Cummings et al. JAMA 1997. 278;1084-1086
**Incident Rate Ratio (95% CI)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Rate Ratio (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unintentional</td>
<td>0.77 (0.63 - 0.94)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>0.81 (0.66 – 1.01)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0.89 (0.76 – 1.05)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(156 years pre-legislation, 36 years post)

*Cummings et al. JAMA 1997. 278;1084-1086*
## Overall Firearm Fatality Rates by Legislative Strength Quartile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation Strength Quartile</th>
<th>Incident Rate Ratio (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1: (0-2 points)</td>
<td>Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2: (3-4 points)</td>
<td>0.92 (0.74-1.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3: (5-8 points)</td>
<td>0.88 (0.65-1.19)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4: (9-24 points)</td>
<td>0.58 (0.37-0.92)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

42% reduction in **overall** firearm-related fatalities

Suicide Firearm Fatality Rates by Legislative Strength Quartile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Legislation Strength Quartile</th>
<th>Incident Rate Ratio (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1: (0-2 points)</td>
<td>Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2: (3-4 points)</td>
<td>0.94 (0.82-1.08)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3: (5-8 points)</td>
<td>0.94 (0.78-1.14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4: (9-24 points)</td>
<td>0.63 (0.48-0.83)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

37% reduction in firearm-related suicides

Fleegler et al, Firearm Legislation and Firearm-Related Fatalities in the US. *JAMA IM.* 2013;173:732-740
### Homicide Firearm Fatality Rates by Legislative Strength Quartile

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Legislation Strength Quartile</th>
<th>Incident Rate Ratio (95% CI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1: (0-2 points)</td>
<td>Reference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q2: (3-4 points)</td>
<td>0.89 (0.71-1.12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3: (5-8 points)</td>
<td>0.69 (0.46-1.04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4: (9-24 points)</td>
<td><strong>0.60 (0.38-0.95)</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

40% reduction in firearm-related homicides

Parents and firearms
(Atlanta, N=400)
28% keep a firearm
52% store firearms loaded or unlocked
13% loaded and unlocked
74% believe their kids could tell the difference between toy and real guns
23% believe their child could be trusted with a loaded gun

Households with Children with Firearm: 38%

% Homes with Loaded Firearms
- 0.4 - 2.1%
- 2.2 - 4.0%
- 4.1 - 7.1%
- 7.2 - 9.6%
- 9.7 - 13.4%

# = % homes loaded and unlocked
PUBLIC OPINION: TALKING TO PATIENTS ABOUT FIREARMS

66% Overall Acceptability

Florida Doctors May Discuss Guns With Patients, Court Rules

By LIZETTE ALVAREZ  FEB. 16, 2017
A CALL TO ACTION

American College of Physicians
American College of Surgeons
American Bar Association
American Congress of Ob/Gyn
American Public Health Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Emergency Physicians

SESSION #1: INWARD-FACING INTERVENTION

Optimizing Gun Violence Prevention in Resident Continuity Clinics

**Physicians and Firearms**

**Attitudes**

- **Firearm injury is a public health issue**: 59% strongly agree, 26% somewhat agree, making 84% total agreement.
- **Physicians should be involved in prevention of firearm injury**: 19% strongly agree, 35% somewhat agree, making 54% total agreement.
- **It is appropriate for physicians to counsel about gun control**: 35% strongly agree, 31% somewhat agree, making 66% total agreement.
- **Physicians should obtain training on prevention of firearm injury**: 25% strongly agree, 32% somewhat agree, making 57% total agreement.

**Actions**

- **Whether the patient has guns in home**: 39% always, 58% sometimes, 5% never.
- **Ways to reduce risk of gun-related injury or death**: 21% always, 77% sometimes, 2% never.
- **Importance of keeping guns in home away from children**: 32% always, 62% sometimes, 6% never.

- **Strongly agree**
- **Somewhat agree**
- **Always**
- **Sometimes**
- **Never**
### Intervention
- Assess gun safety in home
- Provide motivational interviewing
- Provide gun cables
- Provide community specific resources

### Percent using Gun Cable
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Control</th>
<th>Intervention</th>
<th>p</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 months later</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>&lt; 0.001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BARRIERS TO SCREENING AND COUNSELING

What barriers do residents and/or pediatricians face in talking about gun violence with patients?
RESIDENT CLINIC INTERVENTIONS

- Pre-clinic training session for residents
- Written prompts for screening for access to guns and exposure to gun violence
- Written prompts for providing gun safety anticipatory guidance and counseling
- Clinic toolkit
  - Gun locks
  - Informational brochures for patients and providers
CLINIC SCREENING GUIDE

- Age-based chart with information about screening, counseling and available resources
- Questions derived from AAP (Bright Futures and Connected Kids), Massachusetts Medical Society publications and Lipstick (Ladies Involved in Putting a Stop to Inner City Killing)
- Counseling adapted from AAP and Be Smart Campaign
- Standardized phrases for integration into After Visit Summaries
NOW IT’S YOUR TURN!

Please turn to Worksheet #1 – Designing a Curriculum
CHALLENGES

Please flip over to “Anticipating Challenges”
REGROUP
SESSION #2: OUTWARD-FACING INTERVENTION

Optimizing Gun Violence Prevention via Legislative Advocacy
BRIEF OVERVIEW OF FIREARM LEGISLATION

- Curb firearm trafficking
- Background checks
- Child safety
- Assault weapons
- Guns in public places
OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADVOCACY

Increasing background check requirements

Providing federal funding for gun violence prevention research
Only 60% of gun sales in the United States are conducted with background checks.
BACKGROUND CHECKS

- Brady Law (1993): Required background checks with guns sold through federally licensed dealers; no sales to felons, fugitives, or domestic abusers
- Eighteen states and D.C. have extended the background check requirement beyond federal law to at least some private sales
- Current legislation (H.R. 3411) pending in the U.S. House of Representatives
DO GUN LAWS WORK?

Strong gun laws are clearly associated with lower gun death rates. Legislators should work to save lives in their communities by fighting to enact sensible gun laws.

**TOP 10 STATES WITH THE STRONGEST GUN LAWS**
1. CALIFORNIA
2. CONNECTICUT
3. NEW JERSEY
4. MARYLAND
5. NEW YORK
6. MASSACHUSETTS
7. HAWAII
8. ILLINOIS
9. RHODE ISLAND
10. DELAWARE

**TOP 10 STATES WITH THE LOWEST GUN DEATH RATES**
1. HAWAII
2. MASSACHUSETTS
3. RHODE ISLAND
4. NEW YORK
5. NEW JERSEY
6. CONNECTICUT
7. MINNESOTA
8. IOWA
9. CALIFORNIA
10. MAINE

7 STATES HAVE BOTH
THE DICKEY AMENDMENT (1996) PROHIBITS USE OF FEDERAL FUNDING ON GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH.
HISTORY

- 1993: Study funded by CDC finds that homes with firearms were at increased risk for homicide in the home
- 1993-1996: NRA lobbied to have the CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention shut down
- 1996 Dickey Amendment: “none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may be used to advocate or promote gun control”
2013: President Obama signed an executive order calling for the CDC to resume gun violence research and asking Congress to budget $10 million in funding

10/2015: Rep. David Price (D-NC) urges Congress to end ban on gun violence research; receives support from 110/188 House Democrats and zero Republicans
FINAL POINT

- Traffic safety
  - $240 million / year
  - 33,804 motor vehicle fatalities in 2013

- Gun violence
  - Almost no federal funding
  - < $5 million / year in other funds (mostly private)
  - 33,636 gun violence fatalities in 2013
Go to the URL on your worksheet

In the drop down menu, select “Take Action”

Select “Find your Elected Officials”
Tips for Identifying your Elected Officials’ Positions:

- Elected Officials’ personal websites will often have a page listing their priorities

- Google “HR 3411” to find a list of representatives who support expanded background checks

- Votesmart.org → Enter your legislator and click “positions”
DEVELOPING AN ELEVATOR PITCH

Keep your pitch BRIEF- you should be able to give the whole pitch during a short elevator ride

Use what you’ve learned about your legislator to target your pitch

Be specific about your “ask”- what do you want your legislator to do next?
Make it personal
REGROUP
THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!
Invited Scientific Symposium
Saturday May 6, 10:30-12:30

Protecting our Children from Gun Violence: Policy, Politics and Pediatricians

Eric Fleegler, Rebekah Mannix, Michael Monuteaux, Lois Lee, Matthew Miller, David Hemenway, Judy Schaecter