

PLATFORM PRESENTATIONS

Other Injury Prevention Topics

Sunday, December 3, 2023, 9:00 AM to 10:15 AM

Session Description:

This session will focus on a variety of injury prevention topics drawing attention to the breadth of the field of childhood injury prevention. Speakers will delve into topics ranging from rural perspectives on equestrian helmet use, cognitive interventions to improve visual attention and impacts on teen driver safety, and clinical pedagogies for approaching conversations on substance use in injured teens in an inpatient setting. Additionally, there will be a timely assessment of previous conference topics, their evolution, and progress made and a compelling initiative that both tugs at heartstrings and makes strides in injury prevention - The Teddy Bear Clinic. This session will provide a wide range of views, advancements, and overcoming challenges in injury prevention.

Learning Objectives:

1. Describe rural adolescent perspectives on equestrian helmet use
2. Identify factors associated with publication after presentation at IFCK conference
3. Learn about contemporary applications of visual field technologies for improving teen road safety
4. Understand successes and limitations in tools for initiating and maintaining effective dialogues with adolescents regarding substance use
5. Describe a unique collaboration between the community and clinicians for injury prevention and health promotion via The Teddy Bear Clinic

Moderators:



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Rural Adolescent Attitudes and Use of Equestrian Helmets



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Background: Horses are still common in rural areas including farms and ranches and are used for work-related activities as well as for recreation. Equestrian helmets can help prevent and decrease the severity of head injuries when on or around a horse. Yet, helmets may be underutilized by horseback riders. Our study objective was to evaluate the frequency of equestrian helmet use in rural adolescents, their attitudes with regards to helmets and to identify associated demographic factors.

Methods: A convenience sample of 2022 Iowa FFA (formerly Future Farmers of America) Leadership Conference attendees completed an anonymous survey at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital injury prevention booth. Data was compiled and imported into Stata 15.1 (StataCorp, College Station, TX). Descriptive and statistical analyses were performed including bivariate (Chi-square, Fisher's exact test) and multivariable logistic regression analyses.

Results: 1,331 adolescents who were 13-18 years of age participated. One-fourth (26%) of participant's households owned a horse with those from farms having the highest ownership proportion (37%), $p < 0.01$. Youth from farms were 4.3 times more likely to own a horse than those living in towns. Overall, 45% had ridden a horse in the past year. Females (51%) and those whose families owned a horse (86%) had higher proportions having ridden a horse in the past year. Females were 2.1 times and horse owners 15.6 times more likely to have ridden a horse in the past year than males and non-owners, respectively. Females, those from farms and horse owners also had higher proportions riding horses frequently (daily/monthly). Equestrian helmet use was: 13% always, 10% mostly, 11% sometimes, 17% rarely, 50% never. Females had higher helmet use as compared to males. Helmet importance (rated 1-10) was a median of 6 and mean of 5.8, lower ratings than for dirt bikes or motorcycles. Those who had not ridden or rode infrequently viewed equestrian helmet use as being more important than more frequent riders ($p < 0.001$). Only 22% supported equestrian helmet use laws. Males, non-Hispanic Whites, farm residents and horse owners had lower proportions supporting helmet laws. Respondents who had participated in an activity that required equestrian helmet use had higher percentages that reported wearing helmets, viewed wearing helmets as important, and supported laws mandating helmet use (all $p < 0.001$); they were also 4 times more likely to wear a helmet than those who had not participated in an activity mandating equestrian helmet use.