Spring/Summer
Newsletter

2009

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Injury Prevention

VOWS

Shaken Baby Syndrome Program receives Accolades



Pictured here from left (back row) are: Denise Polgar, Dr. Rob Leeper, and Tanya Charyk Stewart.

In the front row from left are: Dr. Daryl Gray, Dr. Kelly Vogt, Dr. Neil Parry and Dr. Murray Girotti Absent from photo are Dr. Abdel Lawendy and Dr. Amit Badhwar. On March 26, the Trauma stage, as Program at Children's Hospital was presented with a national award in recognition of the program's work in the research, development and implementation of a Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) program.

The award was received at a SBS forum hosted by LHSC and attended by 300 health care and community support professionals from across the province. Keynote speakers included Marilyn Barr, Founder & Executive Director, National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome and Darryl Gibbs, whose baby was shaken and killed by a certified child care provider.

A total of eight scientific papers from LHSC staff and physicians were accepted for oral presentation at the Trauma 2009 conference in Auckland, New Zealand. Of those, three papers won "best of" in their respective categories. "LHSC's success on the national/international trauma stage, as evidenced by these awards, is the culmination of hard work, innovative ideas and the right people supporting one another with a common goal of excellence in trauma care and research," says Dr. Murray Girotti, Medical Director of the Trauma Program.

The winning presentations were:

- Best injury prevention paper "Moving from Evidence to Action: Prioritization of Pediatric Injury Issues for Focused Injury Prevention Programming," by Tanya Charyk Stewart, Epidemiologist/Data Specialist, Trauma Program
- Best scientific paper presented by a non-physician – "Shaking Up the System: Lessons Learned from the Implementation and Evaluation of a Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention Program," by Denise Polgar, Injury Prevention Specialist, Trauma Program
- Best scientific paper by a resident or fellow –
 "Compartment Syndrome Causes a Systemic Inflammatory Response and Remote Organ Injury," by Dr. Abdel Lawendy, General Surgery Fellow

BE SAFE BE SEEN CAMPAIGN

Regional Injury Prevention Group promotes safe physical activity

The South West Injury Prevention Network (SWIPN) is a collaboration of community partners dedicated to preventing injuries. SWIPN has developed a campaign designed to raise awareness for safe and healthy activities, including commuting and physical activity.

As the community promotes healthy lifestyles, more and more people will be out enjoying the beautiful weather, running, walking, cycling, and playing. SWIPN would like everyone to be able to continue these activities for many years to come.

Do all you can to Be Safe and Be Seen.

In the Southwest Region over the last 5 years 252 pedestrians have been severely injured related to everyday activities. These injuries have occurred walking to work, playing with friends, biking throughout the city and other healthy lifestyle choices.

SWIPN promotes safe commutes to work and play activities. Take the precautions to keep yourself safe. Wear the appropriate gear, including a helmet. Make sure that you are visible to motorists, by wearing light/bright coloured clothes, reflective gear and be aware of motor vehicles. It is all of our responsibilities to make sure our activities are safe. The campaign BE SAFE BE SEEN begins in May. Summer can be a deadly time for pedestrians. Take the steps to keep yourself and your family safe and Be Safe and Be Seen.

London Health Sciences Centre has commissioned Be Safe Be Seen artwork on London buses for the months of May and June, keep your eyes out for them.

For more information on any of the Trauma Program's injury prevention activities please contact the Injury Prevention Educator – Jane Harrington

519-685-8500 Ext. 56041 Jane.harrington@lhsc.on.ca

Farewell Christine, Welcome Back Kristine!

The Trauma Program wishes to extend our sincerest thanks to Christine Willman who temporarily covered the role of Paediatric Trauma Nurse Case Manager while Kristine Hooghiem was on maternity leave of absence.

Christine's passion and support for trauma prevention was clearly evidenced by her enthusiastic participation in several initiatives including the Period of PURPLE Crying, IMPACT and Helmets on Kids etc. She also maintained the Injury Prevention bulletin board on level 7 Paediatrics and developed a number of injury fact sheets that are given to injured patients and their families to help reduce the likelihood of a future injury. Christine will be missed but we know she will continue to promote injury prevention at every opportunity.

The Trauma Program would also like to welcome Kristine Hooghiem back into the role of Paediatric Trauma Nurse Case Manager. Kristine's return coincides with the start of the peak trauma season which is always a reminder of the further efforts that are needed in the area of prevention.