CHILD SAFETY SEMINAR

25 August 2010

Red Cross War Memorial Trauma Unit
Children’s Hospital
University of Cape Town
South Africa
Program (Before Tea)

1 Welcome & Introduction

2 Safety within Red Cross Children’s Hospital
   Dr Linda, CEO Red Cross

3 Accidental and Non-accidental Injuries
   Prof Sebastian van As

4 Trends in Accidental and Non-accidental injuries
   Audrey Sullivan and Jessica Law

5 The true cost of Burns
   Prof Heinz Rode

6 Burn Prevention
   Mr Patrick Kulati (Paraffin Safety South Africa)

7 Launch of the new Living Safely Poster
   Maureen McCrea Department of Health
Program (After Tea)

8 Road Safety Initiatives in South Africa
   Dr Pieter Venter

9 Entertainment
   Stepping Stone Creche

10 Graduation Ceremony
   Pumla Mtambeka
Accidental and Non-accidental injuries
Paediatric Trauma Care

- Trauma leading cause childhood deaths
  - Approximately 1 million deaths annually
    - Motor vehicle accidents
    - Drowning
    - Burns
INJURY DEATHS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS UNDER THE AGE OF 15 YEARS, BY CAUSE AND SEX, 2002

- **ROAD TRAFFIC**
  - Boys: 111,497
  - Girls: 71,336

- **DROWNING**
  - Boys: 89,898
  - Girls: 55,028

- **BURNS**
  - Boys: 34,011
  - Girls: 39,837

- **FALLS**
  - Boys: 22,268
  - Girls: 14,731

- **POISONING**
  - Boys: 19,644
  - Girls: 15,785

- **VIOLENCE**
  - Boys: 16,238
  - Girls: 14,720

- **SELF-INFlicted**
  - Boys: 8,573
  - Girls: 6,309
Children Injuries

- Trauma leading cause childhood deaths
- Approximately 1 million deaths annually

1. Motor vehicle accidents
   - Pedestrian (80%)
   - Passengers (20%)

2. Drowning

3. Burns
Burden of Injury in the U.S., 2006

- Deaths: 179,065
- Hospital Discharges: 2,968,000
- Emergency Department Visits*: 42,400,000
- Episodes of Injuries Reported: 93,566,000

Child Injuries

"ACCIDENTAL"

NEGLECT

TRAFFIC

DROWNING

BURNS

POISONING

FALLS

"NON-ACCIDENTAL"

PHYSICAL VIOLENCE

SEXUAL VIOLENCE

EMOTIONAL VIOLENCE

Child Disability

Child Injuries

Child Deaths
Resilience (Protective) factors

Supervision Requirement

“Accidental”?
Accidental versus Non-accidental

Non-accidental

Accidental
Accidental versus Non-accidental

Non-accidental

Accidental

Under the age of 6
Accidental versus Non-accidental

Non-accidental

Under the age of 6

Accidental
Ratio Adults/Children

Age

18
Africa

- 2nd biggest Continent
- 1 Billion people
- 500 million children
South Africa

- Approximately 50 million people
- Approximately 20 million children
South Africa

- Annually 10,000 children (1-18y) **die** as a result of unintentional injuries
Magnitude of the Problem

- World a dangerous place for children
- Even more so the poor countries

- Child growing up in Cape Town
  
  **25 times** more likely to be admitted to hospital with an injury as a child in Birmingham (UK)
Deaths of children 1-4 years
Red Cross New Trauma Unit
Numbers

- Approximately 10,000 children annually
- Approximately 2,000 admissions
  - About 50% Orthopedics
- Approximately 1,200 operations
Causes of Trauma Unit attendance

- falls: 35000
- transport: 12000
- struck against: 9000
- burns: 8000
- foreign body: 5000
- sharp instruments: 5000
- assault: 4000
Mortality

1. **Motor vehicle “accidents”**
   Should be called *Motor vehicle crashes*
   - Pedestrian (80%)
   - Passengers (20%)

2. **Drowning**

3. **Burns**
Road deaths

Percentage of traffic related deaths by alcohol level

- Zero
- 0.01-0.04
- 0.05-0.14
- 0.15-0.24
- >0.25
This morning: Bus/Train accident in Stellenbosch
Childhood burns
Every child basically a horror story
History

- Child Accident Prevention Foundation of Southern Africa (CAPFSA) since 1978

- Started through the vision of Professor Cywes, the Head of Pediatric Surgery:

- Injuries an important cause of child admissions and operations in hospital
Vision

"To create a safer world for children"
Mission

- To reduce intentional (accidents) and unintentional injuries (violence) of all severity through:
  - Research
  - Education
  - Advocacy
Before you develop strategy, you have to know what is going on!

We maintain childhood injury database
- Largest single-centre one in the world
- 150 000 entries
- Approximately 50 variables
Violence against children

- Blunt: 1709
- Rape: 735
- Sharp: 433
- Human bites: 40

(childsafe logo)
Education

- Annual National Child Accident Prevention Month
- General Child Safety Courses for Community Health Educators
- Courses for Day Care workers on child safety
- Newsletter: the Childsafe REPORTER (quarterly)
- Community based child safety educational programs at schools
- Supply of life skills curriculum materials for schools
- R300 Freeway Project Workshops
- Safe Candle Project
Child Safety Month

- August each year, a specific theme
  - Workshops
  - Newspaper articles
  - Radio Interviews
  - TV interviews

- Last year Media coverage worth:
  - R 20 million
Child Safety Poster Award in Mexico 2008
Advocacy

- Legislation regarding the manufacturing of SA Bureau of Standards approved child restraints for the use in motor vehicles

- Motivated for regulations on children’s furniture

- ChildSafe presented submissions to parliament
  - In support of the New Firearms bill
  - Child Abuse
  - Domestic Violence

- Submissions to Human Rights Commission of SA
  - School safety
WHO

Trauma
No. 1 Disease
in 2020

World report on child injury prevention
Access to vaccines expanded

National distribution of two vaccines against pneumonia and diarrhoea will be possible soon

Belinda Beresford

Thousands of South Africa’s poorer children will be saved from death by dehydration or suffocation when vaccines against two of the biggest childhood diseases become available in the public sector next month.

The Eastern Cape is due to start providing children with pneumococcal conjugate (PCV-7) and the RotaTeq vaccines from September.

From April next year the vaccines will be added to the government’s childhood vaccination schedule, according to Biovac, the public-private partnership set up to facilitate use of vaccines in South Africa.

PCV-7 protects children against pneumococcal disease caused by the pneumococcus bacterium, globally the leading cause of preventable cause of disease thought to affect almost every child on the globe before the age of three. Respiratory and diarrhoeal disease are the two biggest killers of children worldwide.

Morena Makohana, deputy chief executive of Biovac, said South Africa will be the first African country to purchase these two vaccines for national distribution. “It’s exciting; more vaccines means more lives are going to be saved.”

Both vaccines have been available to South Africans who could afford them for some time, but their prohibitive cost has kept them out of the public sector. RotaTeq was registered for use in the United States in 2000 and the PCV-7 in 2006.

Key to the government’s decision to provide the vaccines will be a lower price, but Wveth, which owns

Vaccines can spare children the cognitive and physical impairment caused by childhood diseases

Photograph: Oupa Nkosi

It is estimated that about 600 000 children die worldwide every year from dehydration as a result of vomiting and diarrhoea caused by rotavirus, and close to two million are hospitalised. A further two million children die each year as a result of pneumonia, which directly accounts for about 20% of paediatric deaths. Children living with HIV are vulnerable to the disease and other infections caused by pneumococcus.

The PCV-7 vaccine works in HIV-infected children, although it is less effective. One difficulty is diagnosing the cause of pneumonia in children and the best way to treat it.

Using a vaccine against the pneumococcus will remove one of the potential causes, making detection and cut transmission of drug-resistant pathogens caused by inadequate treatment.

The impact of the vaccines will also be felt by adults. “You vaccinate the small ones, but the ripple effect goes through to the older people,” said Makohana. Vaccinating enough children leads to “herd immunity” where even those who are not vaccinated will not contract the disease.

Harvard professor David Bloom, who gave lectures in South Africa on the economic benefits of vaccination this month, said that preventable diseases are a drag on the economy.

Bloom said vaccination should be seen “not just as a cost but as an economic generating investment”. Rather than just using moral, legal or health arguments...
The GOOD news

- Both Minister Theunis Botha and Aaron Motsoaledi have said:

“The most important shift for the Department of Health is the shift from curative to preventative care”
Child Safety starts with all of us!

Our world is created mainly by adults for adults and children often get a hard deal!
Childsafe South Africa

-National Office here at Red Cross Children Hospital

-2 Social workers (only 1 post filled currently)

-1 Secretary

This will undoubtedly lead to more admissions in the trauma unit......
Future

- Exciting
- Many new initiatives
  - Expansion Candle Project
  - Planning new offices with help of the Hospital Trust
  - Extending our Database
  - Formal contact with the University of Cape Town
  - New fundraising drive
  - Co-operation with the Poison Center at Red Cross
  - Co-operation with Global Road Safety Project
New Office Block and Safe House
Prevention is SO MUCH better than cure!
Nelson Mandela

“A better society will and must be measured by the happiness and welfare of the children, at once the most vulnerable citizens in any society and the greatest of our treasures”
Thank You!