SUPERVISION AND RISK OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY IN YOUNG CHILDREN

doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040590d.28

1P Schnitzer, 2M Dowd, 3B Morrongiello, 1R Kruse. 1University of Missouri, USA; 2Children’s Mercy Hospital, Missouri, USA; 3University of Guelph, Canada

Background Despite advances in prevention, injuries remain a leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children. Supervision is often cited as an important determinant of child safety.

Aims/Objectives/Purpose Assess the association between caregiver supervision and acute unintentional injury in young children.

Methods We interviewed parents of children ≤age 4 whose injuries required Emergency Department (ED) treatment or admission to the hospital, to collect information on supervision (proximity, attention, continuity) at the time of injury and 1 h before the injury). Hospital admission was a proxy for injury severity. Case-crossover analyses were conducted.

Results/Outcomes Interviews were completed by 222 participants; 50 (23%) were parents of children admitted to the hospital. For each dimension of supervision assessed, children admitted to the hospital were at higher risk of injury; proximity was associated with the highest risk. Compared to 1 h prior to injury, children were more likely to be beyond reach of their caregiver at the time of injury (OR 11.5, 95% CI 2.7 to 48.8 for children admitted to the hospital; OR 2.9, 95% CI 1.8 to 4.9 for children treated in the ED). Injury risk was highest for children with the least supervision; the magnitude of this association was higher for children admitted to the hospital (OR 11.5, 95% CI 2.7 to 48.8) than for children treated in the ED (OR 3.5, 95% CI 2.0 to 6.0).

Significance/Contribution to the Field Less vigilant supervision increases risk of serious injury in young children. Proximity may be the most important supervision dimension for assessing child injury risk.
Supervision and risk of unintentional injury in young children

P Schnitzer, M Dowd, B Morrongiello and R Kruse

Inj Prev 2012 18: A105
doi: 10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040590d.28

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/18/Suppl_1/A105.1

Email alerting service
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Topic Collections
Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections

Epidemiologic studies (842)

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/