



# Non-Crash Child Death and Injury Data Forum

Monday, November 14, 2011

## Notes from Discussion

Terry Shelton, the Associate Administrator for the National Center for Statistics and Analysis, moderated the one-day Non-Crash Child Death and Injury Data Forum. The goal of the forum was to develop recommendations for ways that NHTSA and NCSA can improve the surveillance of non-crash child fatalities and injuries. Attendees included people involved in their own data collection efforts for specific types of child fatalities, staff from other government agencies with related data collection efforts, and other organizations with potential sources of data of interest. Presentations were made by NHTSA employees and representatives of other government and non-government groups.

Comments made in response to the presentations:

- Having “deliberate intent” as exclusion to the scope of NiTS may leave out valid incidents.
- The most useful information always tends to be the narrative.
- Reconcile data from multiple sources to identify gaps.
- Use of National Death Index to research how hyperthermia deaths were coded.
- Linking NEMSIS with the National Trauma Data Base (NTDB) might prove useful.
- Use “ICD 10 CM.”
- Several people said there is a need to explore a solid method for improving data collection of the KT Safety Act.
- Additional analysis should be made using multiple years of the National Health Interview Survey data.
- Make use of the Consumer Product Safety Commission’s Medical Examiners Alert Project.
- Might want to look at fatal occupational injuries data at the Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- Use narrative in National Trauma Data Bank – get an ideal of scope; also try using the National Pediatric Trauma Registry.
- In the future, the National Emergency Medical Services Information System can possibly be used; currently, narratives are not included in the national database.
- We know behavior is a problem – need to educate families.
- Consistency in data reporting is important.
- With reduced funding, investigate Memoranda of Understanding with other agencies.
- Explore ways that our data sets can benefit each other – good first step and check retrospectively to investigate known data.
- Select key States where risk is greatest and data is available, and then analyze data.
- Need to use established data sets to get counts and details.
- Alter data elements to capture what we need and add questions that can go to the States – review their data sets. Death certificates can be used as a pilot.
- Does not make sense to develop a new data set – tweak the existing injury datasets; need to back away from the quest for perfection; need to look at the largest data set with the smallest number of changes needed.
- Need to add motor vehicle as traffic location/involvement to all data sets; perhaps, need to identify as a product; possibly do a pilot study looking at a few States; explore ways to pull in serious injury information from National Trauma Data Bank.
- Do a retrospective look with the National Death Index – see what is showing up in known hyperthermia cases.