Special Issue

Injury Prevention among Child Occupants

Message from the Guest Editor

It is well established that the use of restraints reduces the risk of death and serious injury for all motor vehicle occupants, and for children, the best levels of protection are provided when the most appropriate form of restraint is correctly used. Despite an increasing spread of legislation mandating restraint use and appropriate child restraints across the world, only 9% of the world's population are covered by best practice guidelines and child restraint laws (WHO, 2018). Even when these laws are in place, the non-use of restraints and non-use of appropriate forms of restraints remains problematic in many jurisdictions, and in countries with high rates of restraint use among child occupants, the incorrect use of restraints appears to be a long-standing and widespread problem. Across the globe, there are ongoing efforts to measure progress in improving restraint use and the quality of restraint use among children to find effective mechanisms for increasing the number of children that are appropriately restrained, and to develop innovative solutions for the incorrect use of restraints.

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Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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