



AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY PROGRAM

Indiana University School of Medicine

CPS Week Clinics Continue to Help Save Children's Lives

According to a recent survey released by NHTSA, one in five parents do not read any instructions when installing car seats. The survey also revealed that parents are making five significant mistakes when using car seats and booster seats. They include; wrong harness slot used, harness chest clip positioned over the abdomen rather than the chest or not used at all, loose car seat installation, loose harness and seat belt placement was wrong. (See story on p. 3.)



An example of child restraint misuse at the Indianapolis Zoo clinic for CPS Week.

In order to address issues of misuse and non-use of Child Safety Seats, organizations across the state acknowledged Child Passenger Safety Week, September 16-22, 2012, by conducting car seat clinics. There were over 20 car seat clinics throughout the state. Some of the clinic organizers included:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Lefler Collision & Glass | City of Mishawaka |
| Greencastle Police Department | Winona Lake Police Department |
| Boone County Sheriff's Office | IU Health White Memorial |
| LaPorte Hospital Foundation | Memorial Health Foundation |
| Safe Kids Delaware County | Safe Kids Elkhart County |
| Safe Kids Harrison County | Safe Kids Jefferson County |
| Safe Kids Monroe County | Safe Kids Perry County |
| Safe Kids Vanderburgh/Warrick County | |

The Automotive Safety Program hosted a child seat inspection clinic at the Indianapolis Zoo on Sept. 20th from 5 pm to 7 pm. There were 48 inspections done with a total of 31 child restraints provided to families. Of the 48 inspections, 23 were conducted in Spanish.

A huge "thank you" goes out to all the technicians, instructors and volunteers who devoted their time to help protect children across the nation during CPS Week.

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Making a Difference

A mother of a child with special health care needs expressed her appreciation for the help that she received from the Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians at the IU Health LaPorte Physicians permanent fitting station.

Her six year old son had a history of removing himself from his booster seat. The mother had to stop the vehicle to re-buckle the child, which often caused her to be late for her appointments with the Physical and Occupational Therapists. She was often so frustrated that she arrived in tears. The mother explained that it was also becoming more and more difficult for her to complete simple errands because her son kept getting out of his booster seat. One of the child's therapists referred the family to the permanent fitting station where they were able to provide the child with a combination seat with a higher weight harness. The mother was unaware that these seats were available until she met with the Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians.

Not only is the child traveling safer, but his mother is happy to be able to make it to her appointments on time without having to make several stops along the way to make sure that her son stays buckled up.

Thank you to all those involved for making a difference!

PFS Quarterly Activity

During the third quarter (April – June) of this grant year, Indiana's network of permanent fitting stations has reported a total of 1,944 inspections and has distributed 761 car seats to children in need. In addition, 61 Project LOVE vouchers have been redeemed.

Thanks to all those involved for your hard work and your dedication to child passenger safety!

New Permanent Fitting Stations

Please join us in welcoming the following new site to Indiana's network of permanent fitting stations:

- New Hope Services, Inc. Scott County Coordinated by Michelle Korty

Visit <http://www.preventinjury.org/fittingStation.asp> for a complete listing of Indiana's permanent fitting stations.

Please contact Marnita Louzon at mlouzon@iupui.edu or 1.800.543.6227 if you are interested in establishing a permanent fitting station.

NHTSA RELEASES SPECIAL STUDY OF CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEM USE

NHTSA conducted the National Child Restraint Use Special Study (NCRUSS) from June to August of 2011, which is a survey of child restraint system (CRS) use. Data from the survey was collected at 24 randomly selected geographic areas within the United States and included observations conducted by CPSTs of the restraint systems of child passengers from birth to eight years old. The survey also included interview data given by the drivers of these child passengers. From the child restraint inspections and the driver interviews, a total of 4,167 complete observations were gathered by research staff. The report shows some of the early findings of this survey and an in-depth analysis is currently in progress. Detailed information was gathered on how the CRS was installed in the vehicle and how the child passenger was installed in the CRS. The following five significant mistakes in CRS use and installation were most commonly observed:

Wrong harness slot used – for forward-facing child restraints, the harness slot used was more than two inches below the child’s shoulders; for rear-facing restraints, the harness slot used was more than two inches above the child’s shoulders.

Improper harness retainer/chest clip position – the report showed that the retainer/chest clip was usually positioned over the abdomen or not used at all.

Loose CRS installation – the CRS moved more than two inches from front to back or side-to-side.

Loose harness strap – when using the pinch test, more than two inches of total slack could be found in the harness strap.

Improper lap belt placement – the lap belt was across the abdomen or ribcage of a child in a booster seat or child restrained with a lap and shoulder belt.

From the driver interviews, the study showed that 20 percent of all drivers of child passengers do not read any instructions on how to properly install their CRs. Ninety percent of the drivers interviewed said that they were “confident” or “very confident” that their CRS was installed correctly and the children were seated correctly. According to a 2003 CRS misuse survey, 72.6 percent of observed child restraints had at least one “critical” misuse.

CHRYSLER GROUP REVISES ANCHOR WEIGHT LIMITS

This year at the Lifesavers and KIM conferences, Chrysler Group LLC announced a revision to the lower and tether weight limits for all their vehicles. In keeping with NHTSA’s recent rulemaking for FMVSS 213, the revised lower LATCH anchor limit is 65 pounds, which is a combined weight of the child and the CR. This change is retroactive to all Chrysler Group vehicles and is immediate. They also updated the weight limits for tether anchors when used with a seat belt. Chrysler Group says the top tether anchor can be used, if recommended by the vehicle manufacturer, up to the weight limit of the CR, forward-facing. Chrysler Group vehicles include Chrysler, Dodge, Fiat, Jeep and Ram. They have a customer service center available for caregivers to call and inquire about the weight limits for their vehicles. The phone number to call can be found by visiting www.chryslergroupllc.com and selecting “The Brands.” Watch for these updates in the 2013 *LATCH Manual*.

Tech Tidbits (cont')

FORMER MARIAH'S BILL SIGNED INTO LAW AND RETITLED MAP-21

In a White House ceremony on July 6, 2012, President Obama signed the former Mariah's Bill into law. The new law is now known as MAP-21 or Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century.

Side-Impact Crash Testing – NHTSA must issue a final rule amending FMVSS 213 no later than two years after the date of enactment. FMVSS 213 amendment is expected to improve the protection of children seated in CRs during side-impact crashes.

LATCH System – NHTSA is required to initiate rulemaking within one year and complete rulemaking within three years that would amend FMVSS 225 to “improve the ease of use for lower anchorages and tethers in all rear seat seating positions if such anchorages and tethers are feasible.”

Rear-Seat Reminder – Within three years NHTSA must complete rulemaking that amends FMVSS 208 to provide a warning system for safety belt use for designated seating positions in the rear seat.

Unattended Passenger Reminders – Research initiated by NHTSA needs to be done to find effective ways to minimize the risk of hypothermia and hyperthermia to unattended passengers or children in rear seating positions.

Frontal Impact Crash Testing – Within four years, NHTSA must complete rulemaking to amend the standard seat assembly specifications under FMVSS 213 to better simulate a single representative motor vehicle rear seat.

To find more information about MAP-21, visit the Federal Transit Administration site at:
<http://fta.dot.gov/map21>.

MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES CONTINUE TO CLAIM MANY CHILDREN'S LIVES

According to NHTSA's 2010 Traffic Safety Facts, motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of death for children age 4 and ages 11-14. This information is based on 2009 figures, which was the latest mortality data currently available from the National Center for Health Statistics. The statistics reported an average of 3 children, age 14 and younger, were killed every day in the United States in motor vehicle crashes during 2010. In 2010 in Indiana, fatalities among children included: 2 under the age of 1, 4 between 1 and 3 years old, 6 from 4 to 7 years old and 17 from ages 8 to 14. Data revealed that the risk of fatal injury was reduced by 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers when they were using child safety seats in passenger cars. From 1975 to 2010, for children under the age of 5, an estimated 9,611 lives were saved due to the child being restrained by a child safety seat or adult seat belt. The data also provided information about pedestrians, pedalcyclists and alcohol-impaired driving crashes and children. To review NHTSA's Traffic Safety Facts, 2010 Data - Children, visit <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811641.pdf>.

This and That!

If you are interested in finding out what is involved in becoming a CPST instructor or how to be a Mentor for an Instructor Candidate, please join the webinar scheduled on Oct. 16, 2012 from 1:00 – 1:30 pm. Registration is required by visiting <http://bit.ly/ICwebinar>. There is no cost for this webinar and no CEUs are available.

Show your CPST and/or CPSTI pride by displaying it on your Facebook page. You can download the “I’m a Car Seat Tech” or “I’m a Car Seat Tech-Instructor” photos at:

<http://bit.ly/MY5aYT> or <http://bit.ly/O0jaP5>



Traffic Safety Marketing, NHTSA’s communications resource for States, partner organizations and highway safety professionals, released Thanksgiving communications material on seat belt safety. To utilize these resources, visit <http://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/Thanksgiving2012>. This information is available in English and Spanish.

The 2013 Lifesavers Conference is scheduled for April 14-16, 2013 in Denver, CO. The Lifesavers Planning Committee has requested recommendations for workshops and speakers for next year’s conference. They will be accepting these recommendations until Oct. 5, 2012. Not all suggestions will be selected for inclusion in the conference line-up and preference will be given to programs that have been evaluated and proven to work. You can find a proposal form at www.lifesaversconference.org. If you have any questions, call 703-922-7944.

SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A.’s 2012 Color Pictorial Guide to Safety Seats is now available as a PDF for purchase for \$30. You can upload it to your laptop or notebook computer and/or print one copy for use. They have group rates available. The pictorial guide is arranged by type of safety seat, manufacturer, and date-range of production. This information is handy when the safety seat does not have a date sticker. For more information, visit <http://carseat.org>.

BRITAX now allows their safety seats to be installed with inflatable seat belts in Ford Motor Company vehicles. They have updated their FAQ’s to reflect this information. You can find BRITAX’s FAQ’s at <http://www.britaxusa.com/support/faq/installation-questions>. A PDF has been posted on the BRITAX Advocate Extranet for technicians to print off and use as validation of this change. You can access the BRITAX Extranet by logging in to <http://cert.safekids.org>, scroll down to “Action Items,” and select “On-line CEUs” and then click on “BRITAX Tech Site.”

This and That! (cont')

If you ever wonder if integrated seats expire, the answer is “no.” According to Stephanie Tombrello from SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A., “The companies that make them report that they make the components with the same quality as other parts of the car so they have no expiration date, just as vehicles have no expiration date. They are made of metal, not plastic, so again, there is a difference. However, just as components can be damaged or worn, of course, like a worn or damaged safety belt, a seat might need replacement after a crash or if the harness is frayed, etc.” This information was recently reported to SafetyBeltSafe U.S.A. by a CPS representative from Chrysler.

The Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia’s (CHOP) website, *Car Seat Safety for Kids*, dedicated to information about child passenger safety, is now available in Spanish. Their “Car Seat Safety By Age” videos have been translated into Spanish and can be accessed by clicking on the “en Español” button at the top of each page where the translation is available. Learn more at <http://www.chop.edu/service/car-seat-safety-for-kids/index.html>.

UMTRI has released their new website focusing on child passenger safety research, <http://www.cpsbestpractice.org>. This website provides rationale for current best practices in child passenger safety by summarizing the research studies supporting those practices. The site includes links to research papers or abstracts so the reader can easily check the sources for their topics of interest. Also on the website are videos showing the benefit of restraining children using best practice. You can access the videos on the UMTRI YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/user/umtri>. If you have any questions, you can contact CPSBestPractice@umich.edu.

The NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services and the NHTSA Occupant Protection Division announced that the “Working Group Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances” report is now available at <https://www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/pdf/811677.pdf> and <http://www.ems.gov>. The goal of this report is to provide consistent national recommendations that will be utilized by local, State, and national EMS organizations, enabling them to reduce the frequency of emergency transports of ill, injured or uninjured children in an unsafe or inappropriate manner.

We’ve Moved !

The Automotive Safety Program is no longer located at Riley Hospital for Children.
You can now find us at the following address:

Automotive Safety Program
Fesler Hall, Suite 207
1120 South Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46202

We also have a new local phone number and fax.

Main phone line: 317.274.2977 New fax number: 317.274.6710

PLEASE NOTE: Our 800-number and website have not changed: 800.KID.N.CAR and www.preventinjury.org

NEW PRODUCTS

SnugRide Click Connect 40

- Rear-facing: 4-40 lbs.
- 8 position adjustable base for more leg room
- Height adjustable headrest with no re-thread harness
- Click Connect allows secure attachment to Graco Click Connect Strollers
- Base features integrated belt lock-off
- 5-point, front-adjust harness
- Only available at Babies-R-Us
- MSRP: \$219.99
- www.gracobaby.com



Chicco NextFit 65 Convertible

- Available in 2013
- Rear-facing: 5-40 lbs.
- Forward facing: 22-65 lbs.
- 6 height headrest adjustment
- SuperCinch LATCH tightening systems
- No rethread harness
- 2 position chest clip
- 9 recline angles for rear and forward facing
- 2 bubble level guides
- EPS foam for side impact protection
- Suggested retail price: \$279.99 — \$299.99
- www.evenflo.com

PICTURE

UNAVAILABLE

NEW PRODUCTS (CONT')

Graco Size4Me 70 Convertible

- Rear-facing: 4-40 lbs.
- Forward-facing: 20-70 lbs.
- 8 position adjustable headrest
- In Right LATCH system
- 5-point, front-adjustment harness
- 3 position recline
- Side impact tested
- MSRP: \$179.99
- www.gracobaby.com



Recaro Euro Convertible

- Rear-facing: 5-35 lbs.
- Forward-facing: 20-70 lbs.
- Height: Up to 50 in.
- Safety stripe system to alert parents when harness straps are twisted
- Push button LATCH system
- Dual belt lock-offs
- MSRP: \$229.00
- www.recaro.com



NEW PRODUCTS (CONT')

Graco AFFIX Youth Booster

- Available as high back or backless booster
- High back: 30-100 lbs.
- Backless: 40-100 lbs.
- High back height: 38-57 in.
- Backless height: 40-57 in.
- CanLATCH system with front adjustment
- Open loop and color coded belt guides
- MSRP: \$79.99
- www.gracobaby.com

PICTURE

UNAVAILABLE

Safety 1st BoostApak Booster

- Will launch at ABC juvenile products trade show in October 2012
- UK product by BoostApak, Ltd. Part of the Trunki group partnering with Dorel
- Backpack booster seat
- Forward-facing: 40-80 lbs.
- Collapsible armrests
- Fold out seat belt guides
- Removable cover for cleaning
- ID tag
- <http://boostapak.com> ; www.dorel.com



Mark Your Calendar

NHTSA Child Passenger Safety Technician Training

October 25-26 / November 1-2, 2012
St. Luke's United Methodist Church
Indianapolis, IN
Cost: \$75
Contact: Sherry Deane - (317) 923-1500
sdeane@aaahoosier.com

Webinars

October 11, 2012
Safe Kids and State Farm Present:
The Missing Tether
1 pm - 2 pm ET (NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 1
(CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Cost: Free / Pre-registration is required
For more information: <http://bit.ly/Oct11webinar>

October 16, 2012
Instructor Candidacy Application Process
and Next Steps
1 pm - 1:30 pm ET (NY time)
CPS CEUs available: 0
(CHES/MCHES credit is also available)
Cost: Free / Pre-registration is required
For more information: <http://bit.ly/ICwebinar>

2013 Lifesavers Conference

April 14-16, 2013
Colorado Convention Center
Denver, CO
National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities
www.lifesaversconference.org

2013 Indiana Injury Prevention Conference and 17th Annual Child Safety Advocate Awards

June 6-7, 2013
The Alexander Hotel
Indianapolis, IN
Cost - \$100.00
Contact: Judith Talty, 1.800.543.6227,
jtalty@iupui.edu
www.preventinjury.org

9th Annual Kidz In Motion (KIM) Conference

August 27-29, 2013
Hyatt Regency Tamaya Resort & Spa
Albuquerque, NM
National Conference Dedicated to
Child Passenger Safety Professionals
www.kidzinmotion.org

A NEWSLETTER DEDICATED TO PROVIDING INFORMATION, NEWS AND OPINIONS ON AUTOMOTIVE SAFETY

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