

Special points of interest:

- EMS Working Group Recommendations Released by NHTSA
- “Chest Clip Guard” Preventing Escapism from Child Restraints
- The National Center Has Moved!



2012

Special Needs Update

EMS Working Group Recommendations: Just Released!



The NHTSA Office of Emergency Medical Services and the NHTSA Occupant Protection Division recently announced that the “Working Group Recommendations for the Safe Transportation of Children in Emergency Ground Ambulances” is now available at www.nhtsa.gov/staticfiles/nti/pdf/811677.pdf or www.ems.gov.

According to a statement issued by Alexander Sinclair of the U.S. Department of Transportation, “the intent of the recommendations presented in this report is to improve the safe transport of children in emergency ground ambulances. Although recent crash data in the United States do not indicate that children are being killed or injured in ambulance crashes as patients or passengers, a review of local and national media coverage of ambulance crashes suggests that children of all ages may not be properly restrained while riding in ambulances and can potentially be injured if involved in a crash.” The goal of the report is to provide the EMS community with consistent recommendations in the transport of ill, injured, or uninjured children in ambulances.

“Safe Travel for All Children” Class at Riley Hospital a Success!

The National Center for Safe Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs hosted the annual “Safe Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs” course at Riley Hospital for Children on September 7 & 8, 2012. Coming as far as Canada and California, a total of 12 participants were trained on best practice recommendations for transporting children with special needs. For additional training opportunities, please visit our website at www.preventinjury.org/trainingOpp.asp, or for more details contact the National Center at 1-800-755-0912.

“Chest Clip Guard” Prevents Escaping

Children with behavior issues present challenges when being transported in the family vehicle. Merritt Manufacturing recently released a Chest Clip Guard as an option on the Roosevelt large medical seat. The chest guard replaces the chest clip, and was developed for children with diagnoses such as autism spectrum disorders, who frequently display behavior concerns when riding in the vehicle. The occupant is unable to push the chest guard down, or undo the guard, two behaviors often seen with children who resist proper restraint. Now Mom can drive with her attention on the road, and everyone is safer! For more details, please visit www.eztether.com.



Introducing Victor Mo Yonkman!

We are pleased to announce the birth of Victor Mo Yonkman! A National Center occupational therapist, Janell gave birth to a healthy baby boy who weighed in at 8 pounds, 7 ounces. Vic was welcomed home in early July by big brother Leo. Congratulations Janell, Pete, and Leo!



We Have Moved!



Although still on the IUPUI medical campus, the Automotive Safety Program, along with the National Center for the Safe Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs has moved locations. Please update your contact information! Fesler Hall, Suite 207, 1120 South Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46202. Fax number: 1-317-274-6710. You may still reach us at 1-800-755-0912.