



AUSTRALIAN INJURY PREVENTION NETWORK

INJURY INCIDENCE

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Spring 2011

The AIPN is a professional organisation bringing together all Australians and New Zealanders concerned with injury issues. Please feel free to contact us for more information.

AIPN undertakes to collate information from contributors, and has not been responsible for the research reported in this newsletter

Inside this edition

President's Report	p1
Children's Hospital Reports	p2
Visiting Fellowship awarded	p3
Student Research	p3
Science of implementation	p4
Sports injury prevention	p4
New journal editor	p5
Injury Prevention Journal trial	p5
Successful NHMRC grants	p6
New Publications	p7
Older drivers seminar	p8
Youthsafe Forum	p8
Upcoming events	p9
AIPN committee members	p10

Dear AIPN members,

Welcome to the conference edition of Injury Incidence. As you will imagine the executive and scientific committee have been very busy with conference preparation and you will see from the outstanding line-up of speakers that we have a wonderful conference planned. We have a superb range of speakers, local, national and international and we are all very much anticipating a stimulating and invigorating meeting .

The AIPN has made some progress on the policy front. We now have a new policy sub-committee, with Dr Lynn Meuleners from Curtin University, Dr Kerriane Watt from the University of Queensland and myself on board. The committee is responsible for coordinating production of policy papers and to date, with the help of the AIPN executive, we have facilitated the development of policy papers on:

1. Mobility scooters
2. Indigenous injury
3. Bicycle helmets
4. Violence
5. Quad bikes

These papers will be placed on the AIPN website and used for advocacy by the network. We would like to develop position papers around child falls from windows, pool fencing, driveway run-overs along with other key injury issues so if you are able to help out please get in touch. We are also discussing the production of joint position papers with the injury special interest group of the Public Health Association of Australia for greater reach and advocacy – so watch this space!

Continued on page 2...

Australian Injury Prevention Network

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President's report continued...

AIPN has also moved into the world of social networking with a twitter account. You can follow AIPN on twitter at @AIPN_ - so if you tweet you can start following us now. We would love to establish a facebook page but will need volunteers to help maintain it so if you have any time and would like to volunteer your efforts for this please get in touch.

We will continue to advocate for investment and better coordination of injury programs by the Australian and State Governments. If you have any good contacts in your State, or with the Australian Government and would like to be involved, we would love to hear from you.

Wishing you all the very best for an excellent conference – keep safe!

Rebecca Ivers
(rivers@georgeinstitute.org.au)

Children's Hospital Westmead Reports

The Children's Hospital at Westmead, NSW, has conducted a few campaigns over the years to reduce drowning among children under the age of five.

In 2009, we distributed 15,000 Water Watcher Armbands to swimming pools owners in two council areas using the council swimming pool registers. The final report and the findings from the reply paid survey are available at: http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/sites/kidshealth.chw.edu.au/files/attachments/757/final_report.pdf.

In 2010, we developed the Protect Your Pool, Protect Your Kids online video to educate pool owners about pool fencing and how to ensure their fences are maintained according to the legislation. It is available on our website at <http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/projects/drowning-prevention/swimming-pool-fencing> . We are currently in the process of evaluating this campaign.

We also developed a briefing paper at the start of this year on the current issues with swimming pools which includes a number of draft recommendations to improve the safety of children under the age of five in NSW. This paper also includes a cost benefit analysis showing the cost effectiveness of mandatory swimming pool inspections. It is available at http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/sites/kidshealth.chw.edu.au/files/attachments/754/briefing_paper-swimming_pool_safety_2.pdf.

This summer we are also promoting the importance of inflatable pool safety and have developed a poster which is available on the website at <http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/projects/drowning-prevention/swimming-pool-fencing>. Further information on inflatable pool safety is also available from the website at <http://kidshealth.chw.edu.au/projects/drowning-prevention/inflatable-and-portable-pools>.

The Children's Hospital at Westmead also has a working party report to address the issue of children falling from buildings , which is available at: http://www.chw.edu.au/parents/kidshealth/building_falls/outcomes_report_-_executive_summary.pdf.

Erin Simmonds (Health Promotion Officer, Kids Health, ErinS1@chw.edu.au)
Candace Douglass (Department Head, Kids Health, candaced@chw.edu.au)

Visiting Fellowship awarded for Driving Simulator Project, Curtin

Dr Mark Young of Brunel University in West London has been awarded an “Excellent and Active Visiting Fellowship” by the Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University. He was nominated by A/Prof Lynn Meuleners of the Curtin-Monash Accident Research Centre (C-MARC), Curtin University and will visit the Centre in November 2011 to provide guidance and advice for C-MARC’s new Driving Simulator Project.

Dr Young is a cognitive ergonomist specialising in automation and transportation systems, with most of his research taking place in the Brunel University Driving Simulator. C-MARC’s Driving Simulator Project is an exciting new initiative and represents a collaboration between Main Roads Western Australia, C-MARC and Curtin University. It is envisaged that the driving simulator studies will be undertaken to identify risk factors for crashes with a particular focus on older driver safety and eye conditions.

Dr Young will visit Curtin University in November and will present at the CHIRI conference held at Curtin University on November 24th-25th, 2011.

Lynn Meuleners
(l.meuleners@curtin.edu.au)

Student Research

Vision tests associated with driving difficulty for older drivers with cataract

Researchers from the Curtin-Monash Accident Research Centre (C-MARC), Curtin University, have recently completed a project examining the impact of first eye cataract surgery on driving difficulty for drivers aged 55 years and older. The incidence of cataract is increasing due to the ageing population of Australia. Currently, fitness to drive for older adults with cataract is largely determined by a simple visual acuity test. However, research has shown that this measure may not accurately assess the visual skills necessary for safe driving.

A sample of 99 older drivers with cataract was recruited from three hospitals in Perth. They were assessed with four visual tests and a questionnaire before and three months after first eye cataract surgery. Part of this project involved examining the association between four visual tests and self-reported driving difficulty in cataract patients before and after first eye cataract surgery. Interestingly, visual acuity was not associated with driving difficulty before or after surgery. However, two other visual tests, contrast sensitivity and stereopsis were associated with driving difficulty. These findings indicate that contrast sensitivity and stereopsis tests may be more appropriate than the widely used visual acuity tests for predicting driving difficulty in older cataract patients before and after first eye surgery.

Michelle Fraser
Masters student, C-MARC, Curtin University
<http://c-marc.curtin.edu.au/>

The science of implementation gets a boost

Professor Caroline Finch from the Australian Centre for Research into Injury in Sport and its Prevention (ACRISP) within the Monash Injury Research Institute (MIRI) has been appointed as the inaugural Senior Associate Editor for Implementation in the leading sports medicine journal the British Journal of Sports Medicine. This prestigious appointment is in recognition of her international reputation as leader of this new field of research as it applies to sports injury prevention. More about this new role and the journal's focus can be found in her editorial item in the August issue available on the BJSM website at <http://bjsm.bmj.com/>. Caroline would be particularly interested in hearing from any one involved in either sports injury prevention or other injury areas using exercise as the major intervention (e.g. falls prevention, violence control, etc) with an interest in publishing their work in this journal. This invitation applies to practitioners and policy makers, as well as researchers.

Reference: *Finch C*. *Implementation and dissemination research. The time has come!* British Journal of Sports Medicine. 2011. 45(10):763-764. doi:10.1136/bjsports-2011-090252

Sports injury prevention—bridging injury prevention and sports medicine

Following the recent World Conference on Injury Prevention In Sport, held in Monaco in March, an invitation has been issued to those work who are interested in sports injury prevention to discuss ways to bridge the gap between approaches developed from injury prevention approaches and those from a more traditional sports medicine perspective. It is interesting that there can be so much difference, or lack of knowledge of the other perspective, amongst researchers and others with the same goal in mind. A summary of the Monaco conference and some discussion of this divide can be found in an Editorial item in the August issue of Injury Prevention.

Reference: Finch CF. Updating the international research agenda for sport injury prevention. *Injury Prevention*. 2011. 17(4):217-218. doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2011-040103

Caroline Finch
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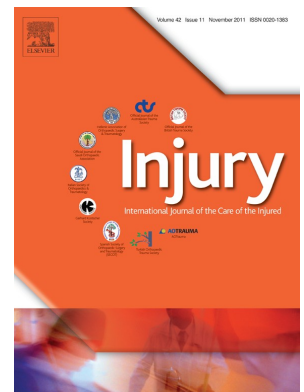
New editor—Injury, International Journal of the Care of the Injured

Associate Professor Rebecca Ivers, from the George Institute for Global Health and the Sydney School of Public Health, University of Sydney, has been appointed Editor, Epidemiology at the international journal, Injury, International Journal of the Care of the Injured (impact factor 2.269).

The journal, published by Elsevier, focuses on all aspects of trauma care, from prevention and epidemiology through to trauma systems and all aspects of patient care including surgery and rehabilitation. This important editorial appointment will allow a stronger focus of the journal on the epidemiology of injury and trauma. AIPN members are encouraged to consider the journal for publication of key papers in this field.

The website can be found at :

http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/30428/description



3 Month Online Trial to Injury Prevention

All delegates at the 10th National Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion will receive a FREE 3 month trial to the Injury Prevention journal

Injury Prevention is an international peer review journal, offers the best in science, policy , and public health practice to reduce the burden of injury in all age groups around the world. The journal publishes original research, opinion, debate and special features on the prevention of unintentional, occupational and intentional (violence-related) injuries.

The free trial is included in the registration fee and will be administered via email after the event has finished. You will also be offered a 20% discount on a personal subscription at the end of the free trial period.

For all the latest content from Injury Prevention or to find out more about the journal please visit the website at: <http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/>



Successful NHMRC grants

The AIPN would like to congratulate the following researchers for their success in the recent NHMRC funding round.

Fellowships for injury/alcohol researchers:

- Professor Stephen Lord, UNSW
- A/Prof Hylton Menz, La Trobe University
- A/Prof Alison Ritter, UNSW
- Dr Kim Delbaere, UNSW
- A/Prof Tanya Chikritzhs, Curtin University
- A/Prof Rebecca Ivers, University of Sydney/The George Institute
- A/Prof Christopher Blizzard, Menzies Research Institute, Tasmania
- A/Prof Lindy Clemson, University of Sydney

Project grants:

- A/Prof Belinda Gabbe, Monash University: Improving the measurement of non-fatal injury burden— Validating the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) project through synthesis and analysis of the six leading injury outcome cohort studies from around the world.
- Dr Christopher Davey, University of Melbourne: First line management of youth depression.
- A/Prof Kypros Kypri, University of Newcastle: Double blind RCT of electronic alcohol screening and brief intervention for hospital outpatients.
- Dr Jack Chen, University of NSW: The evaluation of a statewide innovative patient safety improvement system on reducing hospital mortality and other adverse events - a population-based mixed method study.
- Dr Farah Magrabi, University of NSW: Near real-time identification of patient safety incidents reported by health professionals.
- Dr Adrian Fuente, University of Queensland: Occupational hearing loss induced by solvents and noise: development of new strategies for hearing loss prevention programs in the workplace.
- Prof. Mary Galea, University of Melbourne: Can exercise early after spinal cord injury prevent deterioration of muscle and bone?
- Dr Dafna Merom, University of Sydney: The effectiveness of social dancing as a strategy to prevent falls in older people: a cluster randomised controlled trial.

Injury Prevention Publication News

New Papers:

- Koppel, S., Bohensky, M., Langford, J., Taranto D. *Older drivers, crashes and injuries*. Traffic Injury Prev. 2011; 12(5): 459-467.
- Boufous, S., Ivers, R., Senserrick, T., Stevenson M. *Attempts at the practical on-road driving test and the hazard perception test and the risk of traffic crashes in young drivers*. Traffic Injury Prev. 2011; 12(5): 475-482.
- Young, K. L., Rudin-Brown, C. M., Lenne, M. G., Williamson, A. R. *The implications of cross-regional differences for the design of In-Vehicle Information systems: A comparison of Australian and Chinese drivers*. Applied Ergonomics October 2011.
- Pointing, S., Hayes-Jonkers, C., Bohanna, I., Clough, A. *The role of an open-space CCTV system in limiting alcohol-related assault injuries in a latenight entertainment precinct in a tropical Queensland city, Australia*. Injury Prevention. September 2011.
- Pidd K., Roche A. M., Buisman-Pijlman, F. *Intoxicated workers: findings from a national Australian survey*. Addiction 2011; 106(9): 1623-1633.
- Laslett, A., Room, R., Ferris, J., Wilkinson, C., Livingston, M., Mugavin, J. *Surveying the range and magnitude of alcohol's harm to others in Australia*. Addiction 2011; 106(9): 1603-1611.

New Reports:

Budd, L., Scully, J. and Newstead, S. *Evaluation of the crash effects of Victoria's fixed digital speed and red-light cameras*. Monash University Accident Research Centre-Report # 307.

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/reports/muarc307.pdf>

Scully, J.E. and Newstead, S.V. *Follow up evaluation of electronic stability control effectiveness in Australasia*. Monash University Accident Research Centre-Report #306.

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/reports/muarc306.pdf>

Candappa, N., Symmons, M. and Becker, L. *Descriptive analysis of Victorian Motorcycle count data*. Monash University Accident Research Centre-report # 305

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/reports/muarc305.pdf>

Newstead, S., Watson, L. and Cameron, M. *Vehicle safety ratings estimated from police reported crash data: 2011 update. Australian and New Zealand crashes during 1987-2009*. Monash University Accident Research Centre-Report #304

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/reports/muarc304.pdf>

Cassell, E., Reid, N., Clapperton, A., Houy-Prang, K. and Kerr, E. *Assault-related injury among young people aged 15-34 years that occurred in public places: deaths and hospital-treated injury*. Hazard Edition 73, Winter.

Website: <http://www.monash.edu.au/muarc/VISU/hazard/Haz73.pdf>

Older drivers seminar

Save the date...

It is well known that Australia has an aging population, which certainly presents many new challenges in areas such as health care, community services and road safety. Research shows that older drivers have high crash involvement and increased vulnerability to injury on the road. However, for many older Australians, the ability to make their own decisions about driving is vital to independence. While programs to promote safe mobility are in place, there is limited proof of their effectiveness.

The George Institute, in partnership with the Australasian College of Road Safety, is hosting a seminar aimed at creating a dialogue about this important issue. Dr Lisa Keay, Senior Research Fellow, Injury Division, at The George Institute will be joined by other industry specialists from transport, insurance, and policy making to discuss and foster a greater understanding of challenges facing older drivers and their communities.

Venue: The George Institute, Level 7, 341 George Street, Sydney

Date: Thursday, 17 November 2011

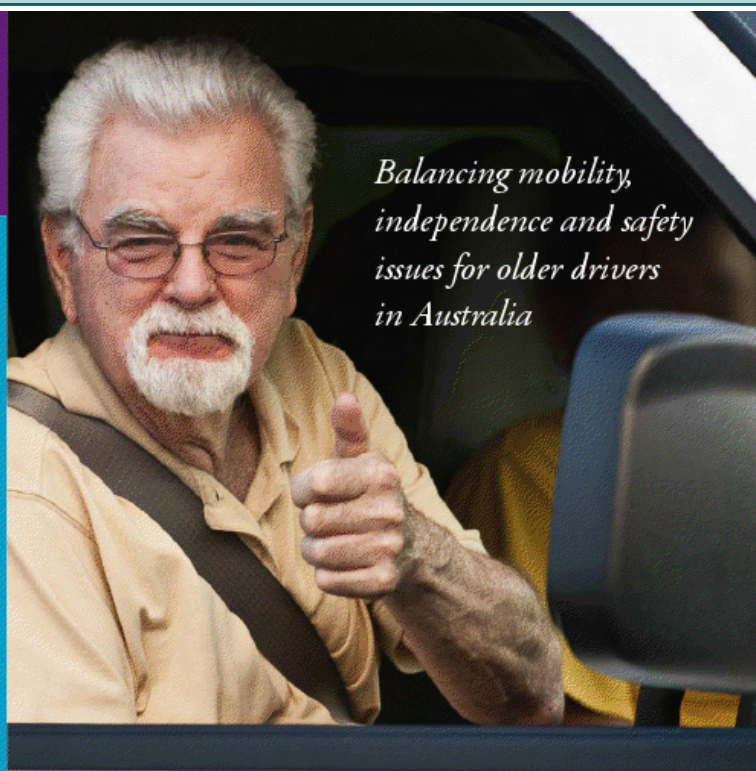
Time: 2.30pm – 4.30pm (3pm start)

Light refreshments will be served

Register your interest with Jacqueline Alva at

jalva@georgeinstitute.org.au

Please save the date in your calendar. An invitation with further details will be sent closer to the event.



*Balancing mobility,
independence and safety
issues for older drivers
in Australia*



THE GEORGE INSTITUTE
for Global Health



Youthsafe Forum

What's the frequency: tuning into adolescent development to help young people stay safe

Thursday 1 December 2011, 9:15am—3:30 pm

Sydney Masonic Centre, Sydney, Australia

Registration form: http://www.youthsafe.org/images/stories/forum_2011/invite_final.pdf

Keynote speakers include Dr Soames Job, Professor David Bennett, Professor Kate Steinbeck, Professor Iain McGregor, and Ms Megan Mitchell

The morning session will include presentations from leading academics and key stakeholders to provide an overview of the different stages of adolescent development with the addition of information on the influence of alcohol and other drugs contributing to young people's high risk of injury.

The afternoon session will consist of three concurrent workshops exploring the impact of adolescent development in different environments - on the roads, in the workplace and in educational settings. You will have the opportunity to choose one of these workshops which will look at injury prevention strategies to help address the challenges within your chosen environment.



preventing serious injury in young people

Upcoming Events

Health and Disability Assessments for Driving Seminar

19 October 2011 9.00am—3.00pm

Ryde, NSW, Australia

Website: <http://vaultcms.net/clients/acrs/srcfiles/FINAL-Health-Disability-Assessments-for-Driving-2011-09-09.pdf>

Australasian Road Safety Conference, Policing and Education Conference: Driving Research, Policy and Action Toward Zero Deaths and Injuries

6-9 November 2011

Perth, WA, Australia

Website: <http://www.roadsafetyconference2011.com.au/>

Canadian Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Conference

16-18 November 2011

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Website: <http://www.injurypreventionconference.ca>

5th International Conference on Driver Behaviour and Training

29-30 November 2011

Paris, France

Website: <http://www.icdbt.com/index.php>

Rail Safety Conference

28-29 March 2012

Sydney, NSW, Australia

Website: <http://www.railsafetyconference.com.au/>

1st International Conference on Human Factors in Transportation

21-25 July 2012

San Francisco, California, USA

Website: www.ahfe2012.org

13th International Conference on Mobility and Transport for Elderly and Disabled Persons (TRANSED 2012)

17-21 September 2012

New Dehli, India

Website: <http://www.transed2012.in/>

World Injury and Safety Promotion Conference

1-4 October 2012

Wellington, New Zealand

Website: <http://www.conference.co.nz/worldsafety2012>

T2013: International Council on Alcohol, Drugs and Traffic Safety Conference and Australasian Road Safety Research, Policing and Education Conference

26-29 August 2013

Brisbane, QLD, Australia

Website: <http://www.t2013.org/>



AUSTRALIAN INJURY PREVENTION NETWORK

The National peak body for all age and all cause injury prevention and control in Australia

AIPN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2011

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JOIN AIPN

The Australian Injury Prevention Network welcomes people from a wide range of backgrounds who have an interest in injury prevention and safety promotion.

The AIPN offers 5 membership types covering most individual and corporate needs.

To apply for or renew your membership, please go to the website to download a membership form or complete your application online.

www.aipn.com.au

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*If unattended please leave a voice message so that the part-time Secretariat can respond to your enquiry, Thankyou.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Do you have any articles, news, stories or information on injury prevention research, publications or activities?

For inclusion in the Summer edition of the newsletter, please submit any articles, news or stories to the newsletter editor on newsletter@aipn.com.au by **31 January 2012**.

This edition of Injury Incidence has been
edited by Jessica Killian, with
acknowledgment to Jan Shield