



# Issue 1

January 2008



# Injury Prevention News

## Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of Injury Prevention News (IPN). IPN is the joint electronic newsletter of the Injury Observatory for Britain and Ireland (IOBI – [www.injuryobservatory.net](http://www.injuryobservatory.net)) and the Collaboration for Accident Prevention and Injury Control (CAPIC – [www.capic.org.uk](http://www.capic.org.uk)).

The purpose of the newsletter is to support injury prevention practitioners working in all areas of injury prevention and dealing with all age groups. IPN is a free source information on new initiatives, publication of statistics, research findings, opportunities and training events and will highlight new additions to the IOBI and CAPIC websites. IPN will be produced three times yearly with editions in January, May and October. We are keen to highlight examples of good practice and news on initiatives from anywhere within Britain or Ireland. Contact details are provided at the end of the newsletter.

Dr Julia Verne,  
Chair, IOBI

Professor Ronan Lyons  
Convenor, CAPIC

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **IOBI Website Report**
- **Report -First Injury Prevention Conference for the UK and Ireland'**
- **Mortality analyses comparing rates and trends in death as a result of injury.**
- **SafeHome Questionnaire Now Online!**
- **European countries scored on child and adolescent injury prevention.**
- **Home Safety Cash Boost!**
- **Eurosafe Policy Briefings now available!**
- **Research News**
- **What's in the News?**
- **Forthcoming Conferences**
- **Contact Information**

## IOBI Website Now Live!

The eagerly awaited **Injury Observatory for Britain and Ireland (IOBI)** is now online! IOBI is a new website dedicated to supporting injury prevention in Britain and Ireland with the aim to provide a one-stop shop for information and tools on injury trends, policy support, reviews of evidence, practical interventions, and latest relevant news and events.

IOBI has been established by members of the Association of Public Health Observatories in collaboration with a number of key academic institutions. This resource will be developed substantially over the coming year.

The purpose of the thematic injury observatory is to support injury prevention-practitioners by making important and relevant information and tools available on one site, including:

- Analyses of trends in injury deaths, hospital admissions and injury occurrence acrosscountries and regions
- Policy support for prevention – abstracts and links to policies and strategies whichsupport injury prevention
- Evidence base for prevention – links to systematic reviews of what works in preventing injuries and summaries, guidance and briefings on evidence
- Access to practical prevention tools –



e.g. the on-line Home Safety Assessment Tool SafeHome.

- Latest injury prevention news – through access to various electronic newsletters and a news section
- Information on conferences and events.

Please visit the site [www.injuryobservatory.net](http://www.injuryobservatory.net) and send any feedback you have to [enquiries@injuryobservatory.net](mailto:enquiries@injuryobservatory.net)



IOBI website:  
<http://www.injuryobservatory.net/>

## 1st Injury Prevention Conference for UK and Ireland

The first 'Injury Prevention Conference for the UK and Ireland', took place on 13 – 14th September this year at The Watershed, Bristol. It was the first major national conference to focus on the prevention of accidents to children and adolescents.



The conference was organised by a group of senior public health academics and professionals from the Centre for Child and Adolescent Health at the University of the West of England and the University of Bristol; the South West Public Health Observatory; Lifeskills and Avonsafe (a local partnership of NHS, Local Authorities, police and other organisations aimed at increasing children's safety).

Chaired by Dr Julia Verne, the South West Deputy Regional

Director of Public Health and Director of the South West Public Health Observatory, and Dr Sheila Shribman from the Department of Health, the conference aimed to make the injury issue more visible on the public health agenda and highlight evidence of good practice and successful implementation of programmes.

There were invited plenary sessions and parallel sessions relating to the prevention of childhood injuries in the road, home and leisure environments and on policies related to childhood injuries.

Over 100 delegates attended the event and were given the chance to share evidence of current and future challenges and the impact of injuries covering safety in the home, roads, in leisure and sport environments and for community based projects.

A tour of the pioneering Lifeskills – Learning for Living Centre (a regional safety education and training centre) was also available. Lifeskills is visited by over 10,000 10 - 11 year olds every year and teaches children how to avoid accidents using interactive approaches.

Please visit

[www.injuryobservatory.net/injury\\_prevention\\_conference.html](http://www.injuryobservatory.net/injury_prevention_conference.html)

for further information and presentations from the event.



**Further Information and presentations:**

[www.injuryobservatory.net/injury\\_prevention\\_conference.html](http://www.injuryobservatory.net/injury_prevention_conference.html)

## Mortality Analyses comparing rates and trends in death as a result of injury between Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Wales, England and the nine English regions.

The Injury Observatory has compared rates and trends in deaths due to injury between Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, Wales, England and the nine English regions.

Some of the main findings include:

1. Mortality rates for all injuries are significantly higher in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the North West and East Midlands, and significantly lower in London, compared to the England average.
2. Deaths classified as being due to an unintentional cause account for about two-thirds of these deaths and rates are significantly higher in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales, the North West, East Midlands and West Midlands compared to the England average. London's rate is significantly lower than those of the other regions.
3. Scotland and the Republic of Ireland have significantly higher mortality rates of unintentional deaths due to falls compared to the other regions. The North West, West Midlands, North East and Wales also have significantly higher rates, and the East of England and South East have significantly lower rates, compared to the England average. Scotland's rate more than doubled in year 2000 suggesting a change in coding practice.
4. Rates of unintentional deaths due to motor vehicle traffic accidents are significantly higher in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, East Midlands, East of England and Scotland compared to the England average. London's rate is significantly lower than those of the other regions. Almost all regions

have observed a reduction in rate since 1996.

5. Comparing the rate of deaths due to falls with that due to motor vehicle transport accidents, Scotland has a significantly higher rate due to falls. The reverse situation is observed in Northern Ireland, England, Yorkshire and the Humber, the East Midlands, East of England, South East and the South West. The two rates are similar in the other regions.
6. The Republic of Ireland has a significantly higher mortality rate of pedestrians killed in motor vehicle traffic accidents, and the South West has a significantly lower rate, compared to the England average. There has been a year on year decreasing trend, with most regions having a significant reduction in rate since 1996.
7. The Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland and Wales have significantly higher mortality rates of unintentional injury due to drowning compared to the England average. The England count may be lower due to a higher proportion of deaths coded as 'undetermined' or suicide.
8. Scotland has a significantly higher mortality rate of unintentional deaths due to fire/flame, and the East of England has a significantly lower rate, compared to the England average. The mortality rate has decreased in most regions since 1996.
9. Rates of unintentional deaths due to poisoning are significantly higher in the North West and Wales, and significantly lower in Scotland, the West Midlands and London, compared to the England average. Scotland's rate is significantly lower than the other regions. The mortality rate has decreased in most regions since 1996.

## Mortality Analyses comparing rates and trends in death as a result of injury between Scotland, Northern Ireland, Republic of Ireland, Wales, England and the nine English regions.

10. Scotland has a significantly higher rate of intentional or undetermined deaths due to poisoning compared to the other regions. Wales and the North West also have a significantly higher rate compared to the England average. The mortality rate has significantly decreased in almost all the English regions since 1996.

11. Scotland has a significantly higher homicide rate compared to the other regions. Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and Yorkshire and the Humber also have significantly higher rates compared to the England average. However, there is likely to be an undercount in England and Wales due to the use of a temporary 'undetermined' code to register the underlying cause of death where legal proceedings have not yet been completed.

12. Rates of death due to suicide are significantly higher in the Republic of Ireland, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales, and significantly lower in London, compared to the England average. Different legal approaches and attitudes may affect the

coding of deaths as suicide.

13. Rates of deaths classified as being due to undetermined cause of death were significantly higher in London and the North West, and significantly lower in Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland and the South East, compared to the England average. Different legal approaches and attitudes may affect the coding of deaths as undetermined. There is also likely to be an over-count in England and Wales due to the use of the temporary 'undetermined' code in the case of legal proceedings.

For mortality analyses data and further information please visit

[http://www.injuryobservatory.net/britain\\_ireland\\_deaths.html](http://www.injuryobservatory.net/britain_ireland_deaths.html)



### Mortality Analyses:

[http://www.injuryobservatory.net/bri\\_ire\\_deaths.html](http://www.injuryobservatory.net/bri_ire_deaths.html)

## SafeHome — web based home safety tool now available!

**SafeHome** is a web based home safety tool aimed at helping people make their homes safer. The tool was developed by injury prevention researchers at Swansea and Cardiff universities with input from the following charities:-

- Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT)
- Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA)
- Collaboration for Accident Prevention and Injury Control (CAPIC)
- National Community Fire Safety Centre (FireKills)



**SafeHome** can be used by anyone, of any age and can be used by teachers in classrooms as part of education on health and safety or IT literacy.

There are two forms available because some things are dangerous for young children but not for adults and older children. If you have children under the age of 5 living in the home or visiting it at least once a month you will need to complete a different form than if you have no children under 5 visiting your house. You can complete the questionnaire online, or print off a copy and walk around your house and identify hazards and safety features. Once you have entered your information into the online form you will receive a report for your home. The report identifies hazards and safety features in your home and gives you guidance as to how you can make your home safer. It will also compare hazards in your home with other homes.

To complete the **SafeHome** questionnaire or for further information on **SafeHome** please visit: <http://www.safehome.org.uk/>



### SafeHome:

<http://www.safehome.org.uk/>

## Countries graded on the level of safety provided to children and adolescents



Photo supplied by Eurosafe

On November 20, 2007 results rating performance on child and adolescent safety for 18 countries in Europe were released by the European Child Safety Alliance, EuroSafe.

The 18 Child Safety Report Cards along with complimentary Child Safety Profiles and an 18 country summary report card are part of an EU-funded project led by the Alliance. The Report Card results show how well governments are doing on addressing accidental injury in children and adolescents. The grades are based on the extent to which countries had implemented and enforced evidenced based national policies that have been shown to prevent and reduce injuries to July 2006.

The Report Cards show Sweden, Netherlands and Northern Ireland occupying the three top places in the performance

grades while at the bottom are Portugal, Greece and Spain.

The countries were scored on the basis of dozens of proven policies divided into different themes, such as road accidents, drowning, falls, poisoning, burns and choking. Effective measures include well-known measures, such as child seats in cars, bicycle helmets and smoke detectors as well as more recent recommendations, such as fencing for private swimming pools and support for vehicle design to reduce risk of pedestrian injury.

To download report cards, country profiles and supporting documents please click on the link below:

<http://www.eurosafe.eu.com/csi/eurosafe2006.nsf/wwwVwContent/13childsafetvreportcards.htm>



### Eurosafe website:

<http://www.eurosafe.eu.com>

## Children's Plan: Home safety equipment help for vulnerable families in England.

As part of the Children's Plan, the Government recently announced that they will fund a new home safety equipment scheme targeted at families in disadvantaged areas, totalling £18 million over three years.

The *Staying Safe* consultation document highlighted the risks faced by children in lower socio-economic groups, particularly in the home. Children of parents who have never worked or who are long-term unemployed are 13 times more likely to die from unintentional injury and 37 times more likely to die as a result of exposure to smoke, fire and flames than children of parents in higher managerial and professional occupations.

Many families cannot afford basic safety equipment, such as stair gates, fireguards, socket covers, which can prevent accidents from occurring in the home. While some local areas have schemes which provide low cost or free home safety equipment to families, these schemes are not universally available. It was in light of the consultation responses to *Staying Safe* and the need to reduce the numbers of accidents amongst younger children, that the government announced they would fund a new home safety equipment scheme targeted at families in disadvantaged areas, totalling £18 million over three years.

Also in chapter 2 of the Children's Plan strategy 'Safe and Sound', the government mentions how they will:

- commission an independent assessment of the impact of the commercial world on children's wellbeing;
- encourage local authorities to create 20mph zones, where appropriate, because they can reduce child pedestrian deaths by 70 per cent; and
- increase the number of safe places to play by rebuilding or renewing 3500 playgrounds nationally. They will also fund supervised play parks in disadvantaged areas, aimed at children aged between 8 and 13.

To find out more information or download The Children's Plan, follow the link below to the department for children, schools and families websites:

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/childrensplan/>



**Children's Plan: department for children, schools and families:**

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/childrensplan/>

## Eurosafe Policy Briefings NOW AVAILABLE!

Injuries are a neglected epidemic in the 53 countries of the WHO European Region accounting for 790,000 deaths each year which, to put this figure into perspective, this is more than half the population of Estonia. One in eleven of all deaths are due to injuries. The health care costs of treating injuries and the corresponding economic losses to society are enormous.

EuroSafe in partnership with the Regional office of the World Health Organisation has recently made available the first three of nine policy briefings which will be released over the next year. The policy briefings will be used to help raise awareness of and commitment to the issue of injury prevention. The first three policy briefings cover the following aspects:

- 1: The role of public health in injury prevention
2. Developing national policy for injury prevention
3. Inequality in injury risks

To download the first three policy briefings please click on the link below;

<http://www.eurosafe.eu.com/csi/eurosafe2006.nsf/wwwVwContent/14policybriefings.htm>

## Improving injury information in England

There has been a long-standing need to improve available information on injuries in England. The South West Public Health Observatory, as the lead on injuries for the Association of Public Health Observatories, is now working with various partners to address this requirement. For example, we aim to develop an increased set of local - level comparative hospital admissions indicators in the coming year. We are also working with the Information Centre and injury leads to assess and improve accident and emergency data availability and use. We will also build on the injury deaths analysis undertaken with the Injury Observatory to explore geographical variations across England.

In the future, we will also explore the potential for top-level agreements regarding improved information relating to police, fire, ambulance and other services. We will report on developments in future issues of this newsletter. Please contact [wendi.slater@swpho.nhs.uk](mailto:wendi.slater@swpho.nhs.uk) if you wish to contribute to this work.

## Research News

This section highlights important new research findings from the scientific literature. Each week CAPIC staff screen research abstracts produced by SafetyLit (<http://www.safetylit.org/>) the injury prevention literature update produced by San Diego State University in collaboration with the World Health Organization. The amount of literature is large and growing with about 120 publications each week and it is hard for anybody to keep up with this information. Many people prefer to read summary documents which bring together the evidence from many studies

CAPIC provides a searchable database of all summary reviews of injury prevention

[http://www.capic.org.uk/systematic\\_reviews.html](http://www.capic.org.uk/systematic_reviews.html).

This section of the newsletter identifies notable individual studies which contain important new information for prevention.

- **Preventing Osteoporotic Fractures**

A new systematic review of studies using a combination of calcium and vitamin D supplements to prevent fractures and bone loss in older people has come to the conclusion that the minimum dose needed is 1200mg of calcium and 800IU of vitamin D.

Authors: Tang BM, Eslick GD, Nowson C, Smith C, Bensoussan A.

Reference: Lancet, 2007; 370: 657-66pp.

- **Preventing injury to young people.**

Report on available evidence about preventing injury to young people including a systematic review on preventing sports and work related injury to young people aged 15–24 years. The review highlights that there are many gaps in our understanding of best practice in targeting the prevention of injuries to young people in sport and recreational settings and in the workplace. While we have slightly more research available to us on all or other age groups from which we can hope to generalise the findings to young people, in doing so we are ignoring the lessons learned in road safety - that young people are fundamentally different from other age groups. It is recommended that the current review be considered as a "stepping stone" in developing our understanding of the progress made and further research needs in work and sports related injury prevention for young people.

To download the full report click on the following link [http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/injury\\_prevention\\_report\\_0907.pdf](http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/injury_prevention_report_0907.pdf)

Authors: Kate Hunter, MPH & Jane Elkington PhD

- **Speed enforcement detection devices for preventing road traffic injuries**

A systematic review, to assess whether the use of speed enforcement detection devices (SEDs, including speed cameras and radar and laser devices), reduces the incidence of speeding, road traffic crashes, injuries and deaths. The author concludes, that despite the methodological limitations of the studies reviewed, the consistency of reported positive reductions in speed and crash outcomes across all studies suggest that SEDs are a promising intervention for reducing the number of road traffic injuries and deaths. More studies of a scientifically rigorous nature are necessary to provide a stronger evidence base that these interventions are worthwhile.

Authors: Wilson C, Willis C, Hendrikz JK, Bellamy N.

Reference: Cochrane Database Syst Rev. 2006 Apr 19; Issue (2) Art No:CD004607

- **An international review of head and spinal cord injuries in alpine skiing and snowboarding**

A systematic review, which examines the worldwide epidemiology of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and spinal cord injury (SCI) in skiing and snowboarding. The effectiveness of prevention strategies to reduce the incidence of TBI and SCI in skiing and snowboarding are described and examined. The authors conclude, there should be enhanced promotion of injury prevention that includes the use of helmets and emphasizes the skier's and snowboarder's responsibility code.

Authors: A. Ackery, B. E. Hagel, C. Provvidenza, C. H. Tator.

Reference: Injury Prevention 2007;13: 368-375

- **Understanding high traffic injury risks for children in low socioeconomic areas: a qualitative study of parents' views**

Intervention programs need to take into account multiple reasons why children in low socioeconomic areas become exposed to hazardous environments thereby increasing their risk of injury. Multi-agency partnerships involving the community are increasingly needed to implement traditional road safety approaches, such as education, engineering, and enforcement, and provide safe and accessible public space, affordable activities for children, and greater support for parents.

Authors: N Christie, H Ward, R Kimberlee, E Towner, J Slaney

Reference: Injury Prevention 2007;13: 394-397

## Research News cont ...

- **Car safety seats for children: rear facing for best protection**

Rear-facing car seats (RFCSSs) are more effective than forward-facing car seats (FFCSs) in protecting restrained children aged 0–23 months. The same findings apply when 1 year olds are analyzed separately. Use of an RFCSS, in accordance with restraint recommendations for child size and weight, is an excellent choice for optimum protection up to a child's second birthday.

Authors: B Henary, C P Sherwood, J R Crandall, R W Kent, F E Vaca, K B Arbogast, M J Bull.

Reference: Injury Prevention 2007;13: 398-402

- **Reducing road accidents through fatigue detection and monitoring: A review.**

Research suggests that devices measuring psychological, physiological and performance based changes in drivers, could have the potential to be used in fatigue detection/warning systems. However, further research is needed before such devices could be implemented in vehicles as fatigue countermeasure devices.

Author: Wijesuriya N.

Reference: J Australas Coll Road Saf 2007; 18 (1): 36-43

- **The effectiveness of electronic stability control (ESC) in reducing real-world crashes: a literature review.**

Given the extraordinary benefits of ESC in preventing crashes, especially those with more serious outcomes, the implementation of ESC should be accelerated to cover the full range of passenger vehicles in both developed and developing markets.

Author: Ferguson SA.

Reference: Traffic Injury Prev 2007; 8(4): 329-38.

- **Medication as a risk factor for falls: critical systematic review.**

Central nervous system drugs, especially psychotropics, seem to be associated with an increased risk of falls. The quality of observational studies needs to be improved, for many appear to lack even a clear definition of a fall, target medicines, or prospective follow-up. Many drugs commonly used by older persons are not systematically studied as risk factors for falls.

Author: Hartikainen S, Lönnroos E, Louhivuori K.

Reference: J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci 2007; 62(10): 1172-81.

- **Prevention of unintentional childhood injuries.**

Most injuries are preventable by modifying the child's environment and having parents engage in safety practices. Effective injury prevention methods include the use of childproof caps on medications and household poisons, age-appropriate restraints in motor vehicles, bicycle helmets, and a four-sided fence with a locked gate around residential swimming pools.

Author: Schnitzer PG.

Reference: Am Fam Physician 2006; 74(11): 1864-9.

- **Multifactorial assessment and targeted intervention for preventing falls and injuries among older people in community and emergency care settings: systematic review and meta-analysis.**

Evidence that multifactorial fall prevention programmes in primary care, community, or emergency care settings are effective in reducing the number of fallers or fall related injuries is limited. Data were insufficient to assess fall and injury rates.

Authors: Gates S, Lamb SE, Fisher JD, Cooke MW, Carter YH.

Reference: Can be found at <http://www.bmj.com/cgi/content/full/bmj.39412.525243.BEv1>

- **Passenger effects on teenage driving and opportunities for reducing the risks of such travel.**

Despite passenger restrictions in the majority of states, 42% of 16- and 17-year-old drivers in fatal crashes in 2005 were transporting teenagers with no adults in the vehicle; 61% of teenage passenger deaths (1,222 in 2005) occurred in vehicles driven by other teenagers. Wider application of passenger restrictions is indicated. Ways to make passenger restrictions more effective are needed, and other techniques for reducing this major problem need development and testing.

Authors: Williams AF, Ferguson SA, McCart AT.

Reference: J Safety Res 2007; 38(4): 381-90.

- **New CDC Study Finds 5.5 Percent Increase in Injury Mortality in the United States from 1999 to 2004**

Injury death rates in the United States rose more than 5 percent after a two-decade period of decline, according to a study released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in today's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. The report indicates the largest increases were seen in the 20–29 and 45–54 year age groups.

Find out more information at <http://www.cdc.gov/od/oc/media/pressrel/2007/r071213a.htm>

## What's in the News?

This section of the newsletter contains injury prevention related news stories from the last 4 months.

### Smoking Drivers Risk Prosecution

Motorists who smoke at the wheel could be prosecuted under a new rule in the latest edition of the Highway Code.



Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7017543.stm>

### Belly Stud 'almost killed teen'

An art student who fears she was almost killed by her belly button stud in a car accident has warned about the potential dangers of body piercings.

Full story- [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south\\_east/7020936.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_east/7020936.stm)

### Fire advice aimed at new students

A campaign aimed at preventing fires in student accommodation is highlighting the dangers of partying and smoking.



Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/>

### TV warning after hanging tragedy

A coroner has urged broadcasters to issue warnings about stunts on children's TV after a boy accidentally hanged himself with a skipping rope.

Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/manchester/7036441.stm>

### Experts discuss drowning deaths

Safety experts and officials have been meeting near Falkirk to discuss how to reduce the number of people who accidentally drown in Scotland.



[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside\\_and\\_central/6972934.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside_and_central/6972934.stm)

### Clampdown warning over seat belts

Drivers and passengers across Wales are being targeted in a campaign to remind them of the dangers of failing to use their seat belts.



Full Story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/6986387.stm>

### Night-time traffic ban proposed

Traffic could be banned from several streets in Sunderland city centre during the early hours in a bid to reduce road accidents.

Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/wear/7061504.stm>

### Road safety play to tour schools

The message about road safety is to be taken to schools in Derbyshire by a theatre company.

Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/derbyshire/7046679.stm>

### Road sign clutter removal starts

A thousand road signs are to be taken down in a south Wales county because they are considered "unnecessary".



Full story- [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south\\_east/7049394.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_east/7049394.stm)

### Call for 'gradual driver licence'

Road safety campaigners have welcomed moves to reduce the number of young people killed in car crashes.



[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside\\_and\\_central/6981943.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/tayside_and_central/6981943.stm)

### Contest launched for new drivers

A competition which aims to improve driving skills among newly-qualified motorists has been launched in Coventry and Warwickshire.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/coventry\\_warwickshire/6972364.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/coventry_warwickshire/6972364.stm)

### BMA call for 20mph around schools

The British Medical Association in Wales have called for a cut in speed limits along designated walk-to-school routes in Wales.

Full story- <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/6968668.stm>

## What's in the News?

### Training improves safety at work

Companies with managers who are poorly trained in health and safety have eight times more accidents at work, according to new research.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow\\_and\\_west/7068485.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/glasgow_and_west/7068485.stm)

### Builders under fire over safety

The construction industry has come under fire from union leaders for its "complete failure" to act to prevent accidents and avoidable deaths at work.

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/7067249.stm>



### Move to tackle road death rates

Moves to improve road safety and potentially save lives are set to be discussed at Westminster.

[http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/south\\_of\\_scotland/7048565.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/south_of_scotland/7048565.stm)

### Child death rate 'could be cut'

The lives of dozens of children in Scotland could be saved every year through better accident prevention measures, a report has suggested.

**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/scotland/7102495.stm>

### Laminated glass 'can save lives'

Laminated glass windows in trains may have prevented 12 deaths at seven of the UK's recent rail crashes, an industry expert told an inquest.



**Full story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/enland/berkshire/7058520.stm>

### North East tops work injury list

The north-east of England has the highest rate of work-related illness in the UK

**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/enland/7072977.stm>

### Tougher laws plan' for speeding

Motorists caught driving well over the speed limit could face tougher penalties, under plans to be considered by the government.



**Full Story** - [http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk\\_politics/7086290.stm](http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk_politics/7086290.stm)

### Rights and wrongs of police chases

Police guidelines for high speed chases are currently under review, with some believing Britain could learn from the US where many forces operate under strict rules on when to give chase.

**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/7093563.stm>

### More safe play spaces in England

The Children's Plan, a £1bn 10-year strategy for education, welfare and play, has been set out by ministers. It promises more safe places for children to play - with £225m for upgrading 3,500 playgrounds and the creation of an extra 30 supervised adventure playgrounds.



**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/7136564.stm>

### Students' lesson in cycle safety

Students in Cambridge are to be given a lesson in road safety to help cut the number of cycling accidents.



<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/enland/cambridgeshire/7023655.stm>

### Energy drinks + alcohol = more harm

Young people who mix energy drinks with alcohol are twice as likely to end up harmed than those who just drink alcohol

**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/7078603.stm>

### Baby death highlights fault risks

A fault with a thermostat in a hot water system that caused a baby to be scalded to death could affect up to 3.5 million homes, an inquest has heard.

**Full Story** - <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/enland/somerset/7175037.stm>

## Forthcoming Conferences & Events

**28th January 2008**

**Directors' Health and Safety Responsibilities Conference: Effective Health and Safety Leadership in Action**

Venue: De Vere Daresbury Park, Daresbury, Warrington, Cheshire

<http://www.rospa.com/directorsduties/cheshire/index.htm>

**29th January 2008**

**Climate change and its impact on health**

Venue: London, UK

<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/event/details.aspx?e=947>

**29th January 2008**

**Young Driver Safety**

Venue: Midland Hotel, Peter Street, Manchester.

<http://www.brake.org.uk/resources/downloads/YDS%20conf%20flyer.pdf>

**25th - 27th February 2008**

**73rd ROSPA Road Safety Congress, Securing Wider Engagement in Road Safety**

Venue: Crowne Plaza, Glasgow

<http://www.rospa.co.uk/road/index.htm>

**1st March 2008**

**Self Injury Awareness Day**

Supporting Organisation: LifeSIGNS

<http://www.lifesigns.org.uk/>

**3rd - 4th March 2008**

**National Water Safety Congress 2008**

Venue: Bristol, Thistle Hotel

<http://www.rospa.com/water/index.htm>

**March 6th 2008**

**Raising the Profile of Home Injury Prevention**

A collaborative Conference organised by the London Home & Water Safety Council

<http://www.rospa.com/homesafety/regionalcouncils/east/conference/index.htm>

**March 12th 2008**

**Falls prevention in older people**

<http://www.healthcare-events.co.uk/conf/booking.php?action=home&id=96>

**March 13th 2008, 5.30-7.00pm**

**Children are Unbeatable / S'dim Curo Plant**

Venue: The Senedd, Cardiff

The event will highlight the progress made by CAU/SCP in Wales and launch of the CAU/SCP "Help at Hand toolkit".

<http://www.childreninwales.org.uk/8922.html>

**15-18th March 2008**

**9th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion Safety 2008**

Venue: Merida, Mexico

<http://www.safety2008mx.info/>

**17th - 19th March 2008**

**5th Warwick Healthy Housing Conference**

Venue: University of Warwick, Coventry

<http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/soc/law/research/centres/shhru/>

## Forthcoming Conferences & Events cont ...

**March 31st - April 6th 2008**

**Brain Injury Awareness Week**

Supporting Organisation: Headway

<http://www.headway.org.uk/>

**1st-2nd April 2008**

**UKPHA Annual Public Health Forum**

Venue: Liverpool Arena and Convention Centre

<http://www.ukphaconference.org.uk/>

**7th April 2008**

**Improving the response to road death and injury - An inter-professional conference.**

Venue: Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London

[http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/Wendi\\_Improving\\_Res\\_Road\\_death.pdf](http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/Wendi_Improving_Res_Road_death.pdf)

**13 - 16th April 2008**

**ICPAPH 2nd International Congress on Physical Activity and Public Health**

Venue: VU University, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

<http://www.icpaph08.org/>

**23rd – 29th April 2008**

**First United Nations Global Road Safety Week**

<http://www.who.int/roadsafety/week/en/index.html>

**14th May 2008**

**The biennial international congress for road safety professionals on speed and protecting vulnerable road users.**

Venue: Royal College of Physicians, Regents Park, London

[http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/Speed\\_20conf\\_20flyer08\\_20Nov07zw.pdf](http://www.capic.org.uk/documents/Speed_20conf_20flyer08_20Nov07zw.pdf)

**3rd-5th June 2008**

**Faculty of Public Health Annual Conference**

Venue: Cardiff

<http://www.publichealthconferences.org.uk/annual/>

**23rd-25th June 2008**

**'Club Health 2008', Ibiza, Spain**

**The 5th International Conference on Nightlife, Substance Use and Related Health Issues**

<http://www.clubhealth.org.uk/conference/>

**23rd-29th June 2008**

**Child Safety Week**

Supporting organisation: Child Accident Prevention Trust

<http://www.capt.org.uk/csweek/default.htm>

**24th June 2008**

**National Falls Awareness Day**

Supporting organisation: Help the aged

<http://www.helptheaged.org.uk/en-gb/AdviceSupport/HomeSafety/FallPrevention/NFAD/>

**27-30 August 2008**

**12th European Symposium on Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour**

Venue: Glasgow

<http://www.esssb12.org/>

## Forthcoming Conferences & Events cont ...

**7th - 10th September 2008**

**XVIIth ISPCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect**

Venue: Hong Kong SAR, China

<http://www.ispcan.org/congress2008/>

**10th - 13th September 2008**

**8th IUHPE European Conference on Health Promotion and Health Education Towards the future: new frontiers for Health Promotion**

Venue: Turin, Italy

<http://www.hp08torino.org/>

**30th September - 3rd October 2008**

**Prevention of Occupational Accidents in a Changing Work Environment**

Venue: Crete, Greece

<http://wos2008.conferences.gr/>

**9th - 10th October 2008**

**2nd European Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion**

Venue: Paris, France

<http://www.eurosafe.eu.com/csi/eurosafe2006.nsf/wwwVwContent/05C0E6A4D55BB3A2C125736F0031CD92?opendocument&context=7CEDCA0517D47B31C1257177003C9226>

**20th - 23rd October 2008**

**17th International Safe Communities Conference**

Venue: Christchurch, New Zealand

<http://www.conference.co.nz/index.cfm/lsc08/Welcome/>

**10th – 16th November 2008**

**Road Safety Week**

<http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/>

## Contact Details

For submission of news, reports or various opportunities please contact any of the following:-

### England

**Ms Wendi Slater**

Public Health Intelligence Analyst South West Public Health

Observatory,

Grosvenor House,

149 Whiteladies Road,

Bristol

BS8 2RA

Tel: 0117 970 6474 x307

Email: [wendi.slater@swpho.nhs.uk](mailto:wendi.slater@swpho.nhs.uk)

### Scotland

**Elizabeth Lumsden**

ROSPA Scotland

Tel: 0131 449 9379

Fax: 0131 449 9380

Mob: 07980864918

[elumsden@rospa.com](mailto:elumsden@rospa.com)

### Wales

**Samantha Turner**

Centre for Health Information, Research and Evaluation (CHIRAL),

Grove Building,

Swansea University,

Singleton Park,

Swansea,

SA2 8PP

Tel: 01792 602769

Email: [s.turner@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:s.turner@swansea.ac.uk)

### Ireland

**Steve Barron,**

Research Analyst,

The Institute of Public Health in Ireland

5th Floor, Bishop's Square

Redmond's Hill

Dublin 2

Tel: +353 1 478 6313

Email: [steve.barron@publichealth.ie](mailto:steve.barron@publichealth.ie)