



At Riley Hospital for Children, Indiana University School of Medicine

Cell Phone Use Not Only Danger While Driving

“Maaaaahhm!” To many women, this is an all too familiar sound, even while driving, which can be a great distraction.

This year, the Governor’s Highway Safety Association (GHSA) and State Farm Insurance issued a report about distracted driving. Much of the information was focused on cell phone use while driving; however, the report did touch on issues such as talking to passengers while the driver is behind the wheel. Restless child passengers could pose a hazard if their behavior is distracting to the driver. According to this report, drivers are frequently distracted, as much as half the time they are driving.

Yahoo! and Good Housekeeping did a survey of 252 moms aged 30-55 to learn more about what they encounter while gripping the steering wheel. According to the survey, a total of 52% of participants said that fighting children regularly distracted them while they were driving.

Recently in Perry County, a woman was driving her minivan with five children inside when she reached back to the second row to give something to one of the children. This move caused her wheel to slip off the right side of the roadway, sending her minivan into the ditch before it hit a culver and flipped end-over-end at least twice. Two of the children inside were 12 years old, one was 3, one was 2, and the other was an infant. Thankfully, all children were properly restrained and everyone survived the crash.

A year ago this month, a three year old was killed in a hit-and-run crash in Dearborn County. The woman driving the vehicle that struck the child was later charged and convicted. She told investigators that she was distracted by her own children who were in the car when the accident happened.

According to AAA, there are ways to minimize dangerous behavior in a vehicle. Drivers should never try to get anything that is out of their reach as it can take their eyes off the road and unintentionally steer the vehicle off the roadway. They should pull over whenever the children become a distraction in any way. They suggest having the driver designate a capable passenger in the vehicle to be the assistant with the other children.

Remember to follow these rules while you are driving as well.

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Making a Difference

The Chief of the Zionsville Police Department received the following letter expressing a parent's appreciation for the permanent fitting station services provided by Officer Joe Robinson, CPST:

"My family and I moved to Zionsville last summer so that I could attend IU law school in Indianapolis. We were looking for a quiet, safe community and Zionsville has been just what we had hoped it would be. I wanted to take a minute to give you some feedback about one of your officers.

My wife scheduled a time this past week to come to the police station to have our children's car seats inspected by Officer Robinson. I accompanied her (and our three children) to this appointment and I felt the need to tell someone in authority how our time at the police station went.

In short, we were very impressed and so grateful for the professionalism, kindness, and patience which Officer Robinson showed us. He spent a long time with us, trying to find a way to safely fit three car seats in the cramped back seat of our car. He replaced a car seat which, unbeknownst to us, was getting to be too old. He quickly hit our back seat with a vacuum cleaner to remove the Cheerios which the car seats had been sitting on top of. He served us in other ways which I'm not even taking time to list.

Especially because this kind of service might go unnoticed by his superiors, I wanted to tell you that Officer Robinson represented your department very, very well. You are lucky to have him.

Thanks for all that you do to help make Zionsville the community that my family and I have come to appreciate."

Thank you to Joe Robinson and all of the certified child passenger safety technicians throughout the state. You make a difference!

New Permanent Fitting Stations

Please join us in welcoming Parkview Whitley Hospital to Indiana's network of permanent fitting stations.

The permanent fitting station is located in Whitley County and is coordinated by Kelly Jefferson.

Another Successful *All Pro Dad Father & Kids Experience*

The Automotive Safety Program and the Buckle Up Bug joined the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute at this year's *All Pro Dad Father & Kids Experience* at the Indiana Farm Bureau Football Center on September 17th. The afternoon was filled with fun and excitement as over 1,000 participants enjoyed fun zone activities, football drills, and presentations on take-home fatherhood tips, including those on buckling up!

Indianapolis Colts Coach Jim Caldwell was among the speakers, as well as player Austin Collie who shared his personal story and encouragement on becoming an All Pro Dad.

For more information on All Pro Dad, visit www.AllProDad.com.



Alexis Stewart (left) and Rachel Harris (right) visit with the Buckle Up Bug during Saturday's All Pro Dad Father & Kids Experience.

Tech Updates

Statistics Don't Lie

The Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI) released their 2010 Indiana Traffic Safety Facts. According to the report, over 4,300 children (ages 0 to 15) were injured or killed in Indiana motor vehicle collisions in 2010. NHTSA notes that motor vehicle collisions are the leading cause of death for children from 3 to 14 years old. In traffic collisions, research has shown that child restraint use (including lap/shoulder safety belts and child safety seats) is the most effective tool for preventing serious and fatal injuries to children who are vehicle occupants. This data will soon be available for download at www.in.gov/cji/2572.htm.

Recommend a Ride with Grandma and Grandpa

A new study was published in July 2011 in *Pediatrics* called, "An Evaluation of Child Passenger Safety and Injuries." The authors of the study hypothesized that children who rode with their grandparents were at a higher risk of injury; however, they instead found that children are actually safer in a crash when grandparents are driving. The results were compiled from five years of crash data to include 217,976 children. The report noted that grandparents comprised of 9.5% of drivers in crashes and the rest were parents. It was found that children in their grandparent's car were less likely to be optimally restrained; however, they had half the risk of injuries as those in parent-driven crashes. The authors of the report believe this is because grandparents may drive more cautiously when they have children in the car. Imagine what the data would report if more grandparents received the knowledge necessary to properly install child restraints!

Tech Updates (cont'd)

Caution: Contents are Fragile

NHTSA and the Ad Council created a new CPS campaign called, “Kids are Fragile.” The focus of this message is about why it is important to choose, install, and use CRs correctly every time. The goal of this campaign is to motivate parents and caregivers to seek additional information about how to keep their child safe. Previous campaigns put much of their focus on error in selection, usage, and installation of CRs. The rate of misuse was emphasized by conveying the message that three out of four CRs are not used correctly. The Ad Council learned through a consumer survey about beliefs, practices, and attitudes of parents that most parents are overconfident in their ability to properly use child restraints. Parents believe they are the one of the four using CRs correctly. Researchers hypothesized that parents and caregivers are conditioned to believe that vehicles and child restraints are safe regardless of how they use them. Parents tend to think accidents won't happen to their family. NHTSA's new campaign will aim at dangers the crashes pose to children. This new plan was outlined at this year's Lifesavers Conference in Phoenix.

Car Seat Clinics Should be Safe Havens

It is important to remember that child safety at clinics extends beyond that of car seats. As technicians, we need to do our best to assure children are kept safe from sexual predators as well. Please keep the following information from Safe Kids USA in mind at every clinic you work:

- ◇ It is crucial that caregivers be present with the child at all times. The child should always be within eyesight if a technician or volunteer is holding them while the caregiver is doing the installation.
- ◇ If you become aware that a CPST has been arrested or convicted of a crime against children, contact your state CPS Coordinator (April Brooks), CPS Certification Program at Safe Kids Worldwide, and/or the NHTSA regional office. Be sure to have proof of the arrest or conviction such as court papers or print news articles.
- ◇ Remember, there are sexual predators out there that have never been arrested or convicted of a crime against children, so if you notice a technician or volunteer doing anything questionable when dealing with the children, please report it to your local law enforcement office.

Recall Application Now Available for Smart Phones

If you own a smart phone and would like to have a recall list literally at your fingertips, then download the recall application at Recalls.gov. The application alerts people to all unsafe, hazardous, or defective products that became available in the summer of 2010. Once downloaded, you can touch the recall application and a list of all recalls will appear, with the most recent on top. Be sure to narrow your search by selecting “child safety seat.” If you are at a clinic or doing an inspection, you also have the option to put in the model number or manufacturer name to find any recalls. Finally, if none of these options work, you can download the scanner application and scan the barcode to see recall details. If you have problems with the scanner, simply input the number manually and your information should appear.

Tech Updates (cont'd)

This and That!

- ◇ Safe Kids USA and State Farm Insurance have announced new e-brochures available for free in various languages including; English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Korean, Tagalog, and Vietnamese. You can print as many off as you want or email them.
Check them out at www.safekids.org/educators/educational-tip-sheets.html.
- ◇ Please visit www.trafficsafetymarketing.org for the following CPS information for use:
 - * Copyright-free posters
 - * Educational materials
 - * Pre- and post-event press releases
 - * Talking points
 - * Op-ed articles on car seat inspection events
 - * NHTSA's updated child passenger safety recommendations
- ◇ In the near future, the following link will have child restraint instructional videos for review;
www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Child+Safety/Child+seat+instructional+videos.
- ◇ A community toolkit is available on the CPS Board website at www.cpsboard.org/techoutreach.htm. The kit features an adaptable module for making 15-, 30-, and 45-minute presentations on occupant protection to parents and caregivers.
- ◇ A one day instructor development course, taught by instructors, will be available by the end of 2011. This course provides instructors and instructor candidates with teaching tips and presentation skills.
- ◇ One page fact sheets, position statements, and a link to recall lists will soon be added to the www.cpsboard.org resource pages.
- ◇ The Britax recall phone number has changed to 888-427-4829.
- ◇ All current CPSTs and instructors are eligible to win a free CPS certification by signing up for the Tech Update newsletter at www.cpsboard.org/elist.htm.
- ◇ The 2010 National CPS Certification Student Manual is available for free download at www.cpsboard.org/techmanual.htm. You can also purchase printed copies at www.800buckleup.org.
- ◇ Still in need of some CEUs? Visit the following sites for opportunities to earn CEUs.
 - * www.safekidswebinars.org
 - * www.buckleupnc.org/training/index.cfm
 - * www.cpsboard.org/ceus.htm
- ◇ In case you were wondering; the minimum age to be a CPST is 18 years old. Teenagers under 18 are encouraged to volunteer at an event to help with logistics and to make life easier for the technicians!
- ◇ If you have any changes that need to be made to your Safe Kids profile, please do so as soon as possible! Everything on your profile can be changed except your name and certification information. If your name has changed or you notice a typo, please email cps.certification@safekids.org to request changes. Be sure to include your certification ID number, name as it is listed in the system, and the name as it should appear.

NEW PRODUCTS

Cybex Aton

- German seat coming soon to the U.S.
- Very lightweight – carrier 9 lbs., base 10.4 lbs.
- Removable inlay - seat grows with child
- Seat insert for newborns
- 2 position canopy slides under protective cover when not in use
- Retail price \$199.99
- <http://cybex-online.com>



BubbleBum Booster Seat

- Now approved in the United States
- Lightweight, portable, and inflatable
- For children between 4 and 11 years of age
- Crash tested to meet FMVSS213 standards
- Child should weigh between approximately 33 to 79 pounds and up to approximately 4'2"
- Has to be ordered for \$39.99 plus shipping and handling cost
- www.bubblebum.us



Mark Your Calendar

NHTSA

Child Passenger Safety Technician Training

October 17-18/24-25, 2011

Booker T. Washington Center – Terre Haute, IN

Cost - \$75.00

Contact – Brandon Halleck – 812-232-5190

BRHalleck@cfiy.org

October 17-18/24-25, 2011

St. Joe Township Fire Department –

Fort Wayne, IN

Cost - \$135.00

Contact – Jason Bohde – 260-748-7080

jbohde@newhavenin.org

Child Passenger Safety Technician Refresher Course

November 11, 2011

Lutheran Hospital – Fort Wayne, IN

Cost - Free

Contact – Carmen DeBruce – 260-435-7354

cdebruce@lutheran-hosp.com

2012 Indiana Injury Prevention Conference

May 3-4, 2012

University Place Conference Center and Hotel –

Indianapolis, IN

Cost - \$100

Contact – Jamie Smith – 317-944-2977

smithjak@iupui.edu

REGISTER ONLINE AT WWW.PREVENTINJURY.ORG

2012 Click It or Ticket Campaign

May 21 – June 3, 2012

www.nhtsa.gov/CIOT

2012 Lifesavers Conference

June 14-15, 2012

Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin –
Orlando, FL

National Conference on Highway Safety Priorities

www.lifesaversconference.org

8th Annual Kidz In Motion (KIM) Conference

August 15-18, 2012

The Omni at ChampionsGate Hotel –
Just SW of Orlando, FL

National Conference Dedicated to Child Passenger
Safety Professionals

www.kidzinmotion.org

National Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Week

September 16-22, 2012

National Seat Check Saturday

September 22, 2012

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

The Automotive Safety Program
575 Riley Hospital Drive, Room 004
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Phone: 317.944.2977 or 1.800.KID.N.CAR

Fax: 317.948.0399

www.preventinjury.org



Layout: Charles Akerland

Safe Kids Indiana Newsletter: Jamie Smith

Editors: Judith Talty, April Brooks

Special Needs Update: Jody Yoder

Writers: Marnita Louzon, April Brooks

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