

GETAC Injury Prevention Committee

Progress on Strategies and Planned Activities to Meet the Injury Prevention Objectives of the Strategic Plan for the Texas Emergency Healthcare System July 21, 2017

Objectives:

- Identify data-driven opportunities to reduce the burden of injury, stroke, and cardiac disease within the state of Texas.
- Incorporate safety and injury prevention into the fabric of organizational culture and operations through the use of effective methodologies.
- Enhance the knowledge, skills, and competencies of the Texas injury prevention workforce.
- Provide access to best evidence-based prevention strategies to increase an individual's capacity for a safe and healthy lifestyle in Texas.

Strategies/Activities:

1. Develop and track an injury prevention agenda.

Previous Activities:

- The IP committee routinely receives reports from the Trauma Registry and Surveillance Branch at the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), which identify the leading causes of reported traumatic injuries and deaths. The reports are used to determine focus areas for prevention.

Future Activities:

- The IP committee will continue to utilize data to identify injury focus areas/priorities to be addressed and specific initiatives that address it.

2. Cultivate an online injury prevention resource allowing organizations to share information.

Previous Activities:

- The IP committee has developed numerous materials to provide guidance on evidence-based injury and violence prevention strategies, including:

- Spectrum of Prevention tools for various injury and violence categories. Each Spectrum of Prevention tool includes best practice/evidence-informed recommendations for prevention activities.
- The *Hospital-Based Injury Prevention Components and User Guide* to assist hospital-based injury prevention programs enhance injury prevention program capacity by defining essential core components and providing supporting materials to achieve those core components.
- Literature review report and color-coded fact sheet that provides information on effective, evidence-based strategies to prevent distracted driving, as well as information about strategies that need additional evaluation and those that are ineffective or harmful.

All of the documents are posted on the DSHS GETAC IP committee page, as well as on organizational websites of IP committee members.

Additionally, there are links to other evidence-based resources/strategies on the DSHS GETAC IP committee page.

Future Activities:

- Beginning in February 2018, the quarterly IP committee meetings will feature a presentation by a Texas stakeholder organization/agency on an effective injury or violence prevention initiative. The committee will develop criteria for selection and a presentation template for organizations to use for the presentations. Presentations will be solicited and vetted by the IP committee to ensure they meet the criteria for evaluation and effectiveness.
- Additionally, updates from stakeholder and partner organizations will remain on future IP committee meeting agendas. Stakeholder and partner organizations include, TETAF, TTCF, State Child Fatality Review Team, Collaborative Innovation and Improvement Network, and Trauma Registry.

3. Create and disseminate an annual resource guide/fact sheet for policy makers and other stakeholders that includes the following:

- **Pertinent injury data**
- **Status of current injury prevention efforts in Texas**
- **Benchmarking Texas against other state and national initiatives**
- **Evidence-informed strategies to prevent injuries**

Previous Activities:

- During the 2017 legislative session, IP committee members developed three infographics on injury prevention activities in Texas, distracted driving, and childhood drowning prevention, which were distributed to stakeholders to disseminate to policy makers during legislative visits.

Future Activities:

- Additional infographics for injury priority areas will be developed and disseminated for the 2019 legislative session.

4. Develop a designated injury prevention division within DSHS.

- The Department of State Health Services plans to combine several current branches/departments within DSHS into an Injury Prevention Unit. The Unit becomes effective September 1, 2017.

5. Align goals and unify efforts of injury prevention professionals and advocates.

Previous Activities:

- See information above in #2 **Cultivate an online injury prevention resource allowing organizations to share information**, regarding Spectrum of Prevention tools, *Hospital-Based Injury Prevention Components and User Guide*, and literature review report on distracted driving prevention strategies.
- The IP committee has developed and disseminated position statements on workforce development for injury prevention professionals and childhood drowning prevention.
- Additionally, the IP committee has announced and promoted appropriate competency-based training opportunities.

Future Activities:

- An IP committee member will attend future RAC chair meetings to request a list of current local RAC IP chairs. During our traveling workday meetings in 2018, we will attempt to engage the local RAC IP chair and committee members and provide assistance in helping them to enhance the effectiveness of their injury prevention efforts.

6. Develop broad, interactive, and timely social media campaigns that are based on data and address specific issues to be used on a regular and opportunistic basis.

Future Activities:

- The IP committee has reached out to the social media team at DSHS to determine how we can partner with them on future social media campaigns.