

RESOURCES FOR EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS: REDUCING FIREARM VIOLENCE AND IMPROVING FIREARM INJURY PREVENTION

An Information Paper

This document is intended as a thorough collection of resources for emergency physicians interested in reducing firearm violence and improving firearm injury prevention. Information is divided into several categories: general informational resources, prevention practice recommendations, existing emergency medicine-related firearm violence and injury prevention programs, and program implementation materials. The program list is organized by state and by type of program.

Please note that inclusion of a resource on this page does not indicate ACEP endorsement of that resource.

General Informational Resources

This section contains basic informational resources regarding the prevention of firearm injury. They are not specific to emergency medicine.

- GAO Report: PERSONAL FIREARMS – Programs that Promote Safe Storage and Research on Their Effectiveness. [Link](#)
- University of Michigan: Your Child - Parenting Guides & Resources: Gun Safety and Children. [Link](#)
- American Academy of Pediatrics: How Pediatricians Can Advocate for Children’s Safety in their Communities. [Link](#)
- Suicide Prevention Resource Center: Resources and Programs. [Link](#)

Prevention Practice Recommendations

This section provides an overview of expert recommendations regarding physician screening and interventions to reduce patient risk of firearm-related injuries and violence. These recommendations can be used on your next shift – or to help inform discussions at your own institution!

- UC Davis Health: Violence Prevention Research Program - What You Can Do to Stop Firearm Violence. [Link](#)
- American College of Emergency Physicians: Firearm Safety and Injury Prevention policy statement. [Link](#)
- University of Michigan: Firearm Injury Prevention. [Link](#)
- Weinberg SE, Hoyt DB, Lawrence HC 3rd, et al. Firearm-related injury and death in the United States: a call to action from 8 health professional organizations and the American Bar Association. *Ann Intern Med.* 2015 Apr 7;162(7):513-6. [Link](#)
- Dowd MD, Sege RD, Council on Injury, Violence, and Poison Prevention Executive Committee, et al. Firearm-related injuries affecting the pediatric population. *Pediatrics.* 2012 Nov;130(5):e1416-23. [Link](#)

- Betz ME, Wintemute GJ. Physician counseling on firearm safety: a new kind of cultural competence.” *JAMA*. 2015 Aug 4;314(5):449-50. [Link](#)
- Betz ME, Ranney ML, Wintemute GJ. Frozen funding on firearm research: “Doing nothing is no longer an acceptable solution.” *West J Emerg Med*. 2016 Jan;17(1):91-3. [Link](#)
- Betz ME, Azreal D, Barber C, et al. Public opinion regarding whether speaking with patients about firearms is appropriate. *Ann Intern Med*. 2016 Oct 18;165(8):543-50. [Link](#)
- Ranney ML, Betz ME. Discussing firearms with emergency department patients: why, who, where, when, and what. *Emerg Med Reports*. 2016 July 1;37(13):149-64. [Link](#)
- Wintemute GJ, Betz ME, Ranney ML. Yes, you can: physicians, patients, and firearms. *Ann Intern Med*. 2016 Aug 2;165(3):205-13. [Link](#)
- The Movement Towards Violence as a Health Issue: Creating and Mobilizing Health and Public Health/Community Systems to Reduce Violence - A Framework for Action. [Link](#)

Emergency Medicine-Relevant Firearm Violence and Injury Prevention Programs

Below, we provide a list of state- and topic-specific firearm injury prevention programs which may be relevant to emergency physicians. The list is not exhaustive. Few programs have robust evidence of efficacy or effectiveness; relevant literature is linked when available.

Community Firearm Violence

This type of violence is interpersonal (not self-directed) firearm violence. Many community violence prevention programs exclude domestic (or intimate partner) violence. Note that the programs are categorized as either pre-event, post-event, or both. Pre-event interventions generally emphasize information collection, outreach, and collaboration to reduce the incidence of community firearm injury. Post-event interventions generally provide focused, hospital-based interventions for victims of interpersonal firearms violence.

- California
 - ❖ Beyond Violence (Post-Event)
John Muir Health, Richmond
Contact: [Link](#)
 - ❖ Caught in the Crossfire (Post-Event)
Youth ALIVE, Oakland
Contact: [Link](#), (510) 594-2588, mail@youthalive.org

Relevant Research: (1) Becker MG, Hall JS, Ursic CM, et al. Caught in the crossfire: the effects of a peer-based intervention program for violently injured youth. *J Adolesc Health*. 2004 Mar;34(3):177-83. [Link](#)

- ❖ CHOICE (Post-Event)
Natividad Medical Center, Salinas
Contact: [Link](#), (831) 772-7357, choice@natividadfoundation.org
- ❖ LA County Caught in the Crossfire (Post-Event)
Soledad Enrichment Action, Los Angeles
Contact: [Link](#), Arquimedes Barrera, (323) 226-3670, abarrera@seacharter.net
- ❖ Sacramento Violence Intervention Program (SVIP) (Post-Event)
Kaiser Trauma Center, Sacramento
Contact: [Link](#), DeAngelo Mack, (916) 201-0171

- ❖ Wraparound Project (Post-Event)
University of California, San Francisco
Contact: [Link](#), Adaobi Nwabuo, IP Coordinator, (415) 206-3382
Relevant Research: (1) Smith R., Dobbins S, Evans A, et al. Hospital-based violence intervention: risk reduction resources that are essential for success. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2013 Apr;74(4):976-80, discussion 980-2. [Link](#) (2) Smith R, Evans A, Adams C, et al. Passing the torch: evaluating exportability of a violence intervention program. *Am J Surg.* 2013 Aug;206(2):223-8. [Link](#) (3) Juillard C, Smith R, Anaya N, et al. Saving lives and saving money: hospital-based violence intervention is cost-effective. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2015 Feb;78(2):252-7; discussion 257-8. [Link](#) (4) Juillard C, Cooperman L, Allen I, et al. A decade of hospital-based violence intervention: benefits and shortcomings. *J Trauma Acute Care Surg.* 2016 Dec;81(6):1156-61. [Link](#)

- Colorado
 - ❖ AIM (At-Risk Intervention and Mentoring) (Post-Event)
Denver Health, Denver
Contact: [Link](#), Sam Muramoto, Program Manager, (303) 436-7933

- Connecticut
 - ❖ Project Longevity (Pre- and Post-Event)
Bridgeport, Hartford, and New Haven
Contact: [Link](#), Brent Peterkin, Statewide Coordinator, (203) 314-9460, bpeterkin@project-longevity.org

- Georgia
 - ❖ Cops and Docs – The Georgia Firearms Notification System (Pre-Event)
Emory/Georgia Bureau of Investigation, Atlanta
Contact: [Link](#)

Relevant Research: Kellermann AL, Bartolomeos K, Fuqua-Whitley D, et al. Community-level firearm injury surveillance: local data for local action. *Ann Emerg Med.* 2001 Oct;38(4):423-9. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Violence Intervention Program (VIP) (Post-Event)
Chatham County DA/Memorial Medical Center, Savannah
Contact: [Link](#), (912) 350-0231

- Illinois
 - ❖ Cure Violence Illinois/Cure Violence Chicago (Pre- and Post-Event)
Chicago
Contact: [Link](#)
 - ❖ Healing Hurt People – Chicago (Post-Event)
John H. Stroger, Jr. Hospital of Cook County, University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital, and Drexel University Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice
Contact: [Link](#), (312) 864-2735, info@healinghurtpeoplechicago.org
 - ❖ Within Our Reach (Post-Event)
Mount Sinai Hospital, Chicago

- Indiana
 - ❖ Prescription Hope (Pre- and Post-Event)

- Eskenazi Health, Marian County
Contact: [Link](#), (317) 880-5037
- Maryland
 - ❖ Violence Prevention Programs (Violence Intervention Project and VPP Education Programs) (Pre- and Post-Event)
UMMC Shock Trauma, Baltimore
Contact: [Link](#), (410) 328-2035, prevention@umm.edu
 - Massachusetts
 - ❖ Violence Intervention Advocacy Program (Post-Event)
Boston Medical Center, Boston
Contact: [Link](#), (617) 414-4454

Relevant Research: James TL, Bibi S, Langlois BK, et al. Boston Violence Intervention Advocacy Program: a qualitative study of client experiences and perceived effect. *Acad Emerg Med.* 2014 Jul;21(7):742-51. [Link](#)

 - ❖ Violence Recovery Program (Post-Event)
Brigham and Women's, Boston
Contact: [Link](#), (617) 721-6034, violenceintervention@partners.org
- Michigan
 - ❖ D.L.I.V.E. - Detroit Life is Valuable Everyday (Post-Event)
Detroit Medical Center – Sinai Grace Hospital and Wayne State University Department of Emergency Medicine
Contact: [Link](#), info@detroitlive.org
 - ❖ Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center (Pre-Event)
University of Michigan School of Public Health, Ann Arbor
Contact: [Link](#), (734) 647-0219, michiganyvpc@umich.edu
- Missouri
 - ❖ Victim of Violence Program (Post-Event)
St. Louis Children's Hospital, St. Louis
Contact: [Link](#), (314) 454-2376, Margie.Batek@bjc.org
- New York
 - ❖ Kings Against Violence Initiative (KAVI) (Pre and Post-Event)
Brooklyn
Contact: [Link](#), info@kavibrooklyn.org
 - ❖ Operation SNUG (Pre- and Post-Event)
Cure Violence New York, Statewide
Contact: [Link](#)
 - ❖ Rochester Youth Violence Partnership/Project T.I.P.S. (Pre- and Post-Event)
URMC Kessler Burn and Trauma Center, Rochester
Contact: [Link](#), Frank Manzo, francis_manzo@urmc.rochester.edu
- Oregon
 - ❖ Healing Hurt People – Portland (Post-Event)
Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, Portland

Contact: [Link](#), (503) 889-2515

- Pennsylvania
 - ❖ Cradle to Grave (Pre-Event)
Temple University Hospital, Philadelphia
Contact: [Link](#), [Contact form](#)
 - ❖ Healing Hurt People (Post-Event)
Drexel University College of Medicine Emergency Department and Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice, Philadelphia
Contact: [Link](#), Rachel Compton, Program Manager, rachel.compton@drexelmed.edu

Relevant Research: Corbin TJ, Rich JA, Bloom SL, et al. Developing a trauma-informed, emergency department-based intervention for victims of urban violence. *J Trauma Dissociation*. 2011;12(5):510-25. [Link](#)

 - ❖ Violence Prevention Initiative: Homicide Review and Gunshot Reoccurring Injury Prevention Services (GRIPS) (Pre- and Post-Event)
University of Pittsburgh Center for Health Equity, Pittsburgh
Contact: [Link](#), Brianna McDonough, (412) 624-3136, blm76@pitt.edu
- Tennessee
 - ❖ Rx for Change (Post-Event)
Regional One Health, Elvis Presley Trauma Center, Memphis
Contact: [Link](#), (901) 515-HVIP, violenceintervention@regionalonehealth.org
 - Virginia
 - ❖ Violence Prevention Program
VCU Medical Center, Richmond
Contact: [Link](#), Likisha Frazier, Program Manager, likisha.frazier@vcuhealth.org
 - Wisconsin
 - ❖ Project Ujima
Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Contact: [Link](#), (414) 266-2557

Firearm Suicide Prevention

This category consists of programs that seek to reduce the incidence of suicide by firearm.

- Massachusetts
 - ❖ Means Matter -- Gun Shop Project
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
Contact: [Link](#), Cathy Barber, (617) 432-1143, cbarber@hsph.harvard.edu
- New Hampshire
 - ❖ New Hampshire Firearms Safety Coalition
Contact: [Link](#), Elaine Frank, Co-chair, (603) 308-2253, elainefrank603@gmail.com, or Ralph Demicco, Co-chair, (603) 296-5372, email@rileysguns.com

Relevant Research: Barber C, Frank E, Demicco R. Reducing suicides through partnerships between health professionals and gun owner groups—beyond docs vs glocks. *JAMA Intern Med*. 2017 Jan 1;177(1):5-6. [Link](#)

Unintentional Injury Prevention

This category consists of programs that strive to reduce the incidence of accidental or unintended firearm-related injuries.

- Massachusetts
 - ❖ Goods for Guns
UMass Memorial Healthcare, Worcester
Contact: [Link](#), injuryprevention@umassmemorial.org

Domestic/Intimate Partner Violence

This category consists of programs that aim to reduce the incidence of firearm injury in conjunction with domestic violence.

- Maryland
 - ❖ The Bridge Program (Pre- and Post-Event)
UMMC Shock Trauma, Baltimore
Contact: [Link](#), (410) 328-2035, prevention@umm.edu

Program Implementation Materials

This section consists of materials and resources intended to serve as guidelines for emergency departments or other organizations interested in creating their own firearms violence intervention programs. They are split into the same three categories as the above program list: unintentional injury prevention, community violence prevention/intervention, and suicide prevention.

- Unintentional Firearm Injury Prevention
 - ❖ ASK – Asking Saves Kids. [Link](#)
 - ❖ University of Michigan: Firearm Injury Prevention. [Link](#)
- Firearm Suicide Prevention
 - ❖ Emergency Department Means Restriction Education. [Link](#)
- Community Firearm Violence Intervention/Prevention
 - ❖ The Cardiff Model for Violence Prevention. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Caught in the Crossfire: A Peer-Based Hospital Intervention Program for Violently Injured Youth. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Cure Violence Program. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence: Healing Communities in Crisis – Lifesaving Solutions to the Urban Gun Violence Epidemic. [Link](#)
 - ❖ University of Michigan Injury Center: SafER Teens 2.0. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Texas Governor’s EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) Injury Prevention Committee: Hospital-Based Injury Prevention Components. [Link](#)
 - ❖ Violence is Preventable: A Best Practices Guide for Launching and Sustaining a Hospital-based Program to Break the Cycle of Violence. [Link](#)

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