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Center for
Research & Prevention of Injuries

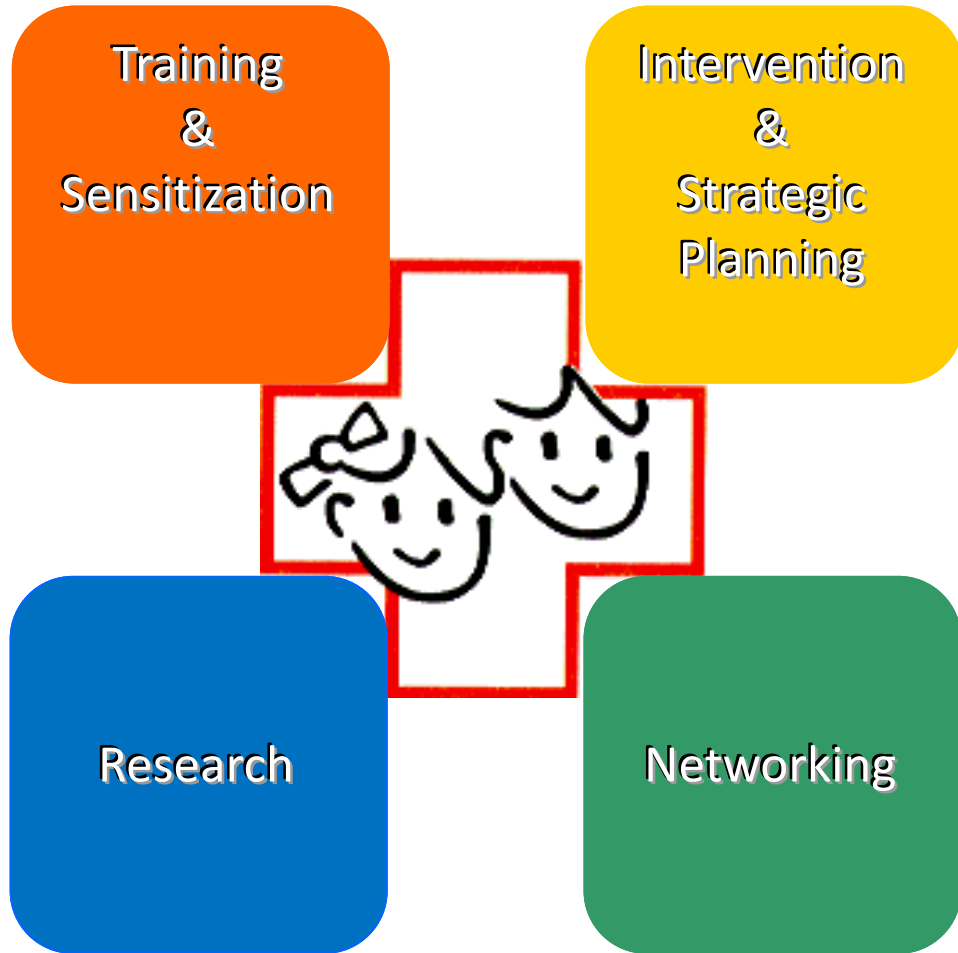
CE.RE.PR.I



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20 Years of Operation &
Contribution



Research



Networking



Intervention and Strategic Planning



Training and Sensitization



1991-2010 Anniversary Report

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The “CEREPRI: 20 years of operation and contribution. 20th Anniversary Report. Athens 2011” was created by Papadopoulou Ch., Dinapogias A., Matsoukis I., Antonopoulos C., Alexopoulos A., Dessypris N. and Petridou E.

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Director's forward



Eleni Petridou
Professor
Director

1991-2010:

20 years which provided CEREPRI with significant research activities, numerous publications in scientific journals, further development of collaboration with national and international injury prevention organizations and activities emphasized on public awareness of child injury prevention.

This anniversary report addresses issues related to the prevention of injuries and has a special focus on childhood injuries, which is the number one killer of children and youth in Greece, Europe and the USA. CEREPRI goes beyond the facts and figures, aiming to identify injury patterns and risk factors in vulnerable population groups in order to accurately develop prevention strategies to reduce this problem.

This report aims to provide a brief presentation regarding the activities of CEREPRI to private and public organizations, research centers, ministries, practitioners, and health professionals working in relevant scientific fields of injury prevention on a local, national and international level. We would be pleased to provide you with more information on our activities through access to our website or a visit to our Center.

I would like to thank our colleagues and collaborators for their dedication and support throughout the years. In addition, I would like to thank the European Community, the Hellenic Minister of Health and the University of Athens for their financial contributions. Together this has enabled us to achieve the excellent results that are set out in this report.

CEREPRI - HISTORY and VISION

Established in 1991 by the Public Health Department of the Hellenic Ministry of Health, Welfare and Social Securities (OJ Hellenic Parliament 1050/91), **CEREPRI (Center for Research and Prevention of Injuries)** aims to reduce the number of people who sustain injuries in Greece and contributes to international injury research and safety promotion.

Nowadays, it is well known that injuries constitute the most serious health problem facing children and adults until the age of 34 years. One third of the total number of deaths from birth to age 14 is caused by injuries, while during adolescence and young adulthood the number of deaths caused by injuries rapidly increases to 75% and 90% respectively. In fact, injury is one of the greatest killers of people and children worldwide, however, a considerable proportion of injuries are both predictable and preventable.

CEREPRI plays a central role in the field of injury prevention in Greece as well as is the main center representing Greece nationally and internationally regarding injury prevention. It not only conducts epidemiological and statistical programs, but also goes beyond facts and figures to accurately develop prevention strategies in many areas that have not previously been dealt with such as intimate partner violence and accidents and injuries among the elderly. As a result, CEREPRI has become recognized internationally as a leader in injury prevention and representatives from all over the world correspond with us to access our information for use in their own countries. The benefits derived from our Center affect both Greece and other EU countries positively.

The Center operates on the premises of the Department of Hygiene, Epidemiology and Medical Statistics of the Medical School at the University of Athens. The Director of the Center is Professor Eleni Petridou.

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OBJECTIVES

- Assessment of the magnitude of the problem, and associated socioeconomic implications on the family and the society at large.
- Identification of socioeconomic or other risk factors of injuries.
- Development of intervention programs based on the correct interpretation and utilization of epidemiological data, emphasizing dissemination of current knowledge, implementation of health education projects, and the development of legal infrastructure for reinforcement of legislation concerning the safety of young people.
- Collaboration with governmental and non-governmental agencies and institutions who share the same aims.
- Setting targets for reduction of injury-related mortality rates among young people.

GOALS-THE WAY AHEAD

In the past two decades, CEREPRI has persisted in its drive for excellence and continued to fulfill the objectives and strategies set since its establishment.

Injury is still one of the greatest killers of people and of children worldwide, however a considerable proportion of injuries are both predictable and preventable. CEREPRI aims to continue to expand its activities and to set higher targets to combat the injury epidemic. Joint scientific cooperation, both at national and international levels, will enhance the extrapolation of effective preventive measures and policies. In parallel to the injury prevention programs and activities, our Center will focus further research on the elderly population and disable people, trying to sensitize both public and experts and to contribute to the wider implementation of preventive measures.

| 1991 | 1992 | 1993 | 1994 | 1995 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Establishment of CEREPRI</p> | <p>Child Day Care International Standards 1st World Conference on Injury Prevention Atlanta, USA</p> | <p>A controlled evaluation of a community injury prevention project in two Greek islands</p> | <p>Research Agenda towards developing a policy for Injury Prevention among Young People in Greece</p> | <p>Establishment of the Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System (EDISS) in Greece</p> |
| <p>A comprehensive multisector campaign to increase seat belt use in Athens, Greece</p>  | <p>Trohopedia Greek youth for road safety Award by the Academy of Athens & the DG Commissioner</p>  | <p>The dual protection of children for road traffic injuries: rear seating and car restraint use</p>  | <p>Vaccination of medical students: preventing workplace hazards</p>  | <p>Epidemiology & Prevention of Injuries A comprehensive Chapter in the Greek Textbook for pre- and post-graduate health professionals: "Preventive Medicine & Public Health"</p>  |
| 1996 | 1997 | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 |
| <p>Identification of Intimate Partner Violence: Development of a Screening Tool. A project in collaboration with Harvard</p> | <p>A role of sunshine in the triggering of suicide</p> <p>Cost Benefit Analysis of the DGSANCO EU Injury Prevention Program 1999-2003</p> | <p>Development and Pilot Testing of a Module Concerning the Role of Health Care Providers in Assessment and Intervention of Intimate Partner Violence</p> | <p>Coordination of the WP-AI</p> <p>An educational campaign to inform and raise awareness on water safety issues</p> <p>Improving the Response to IPV in Military Settings</p>  | <p>Injury Statistics Portal</p> <p>APOLLO: an umbrella EU project on Strategies and Best Practices for the Reduction of Injuries</p>  |
| 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 |
| <p>EUNESE Fact Sheet Series: Key areas for action</p> <p>Priorities for Elderly Safety in Europe & the Five-Year Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Injuries among Senior Citizens in EU-27</p>  | <p>A 7-Step Guide to Implement Successful Interventions for Injury Prevention among Elderly</p> <p>1st European Network for Safety among Elderly (EUNESE) Conference, Brussels</p> | <p>"Stick it in your head!" school-based program</p> <p>European Code against Injuries (ECAI)</p> <p>Participation in the BoD of the ISVIP</p> | <p>Participation in the BoD in International Society for the Study of the Aging Male (ISSAM)</p> | <p>Regeneration of the National Network for the Prevention of Accidents and Violence (EDIPAV)</p> |
| 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |

AD HOC RESEARCH

Epidemiology is the basic science of disease prevention. It originally dealt with infectious diseases and subsequently with cardiovascular conditions and various forms of cancer. Epidemiology can reveal causes and predisposing factors amenable to preventive intervention or, at the minimum, identify risk factors and describe high-risk groups that facilitate targeting of preventive efforts.

Injury research involves assessment of the burden of injuries in Greece as well as the socio-economic impact at both the family and state level. It also includes the investigation of social, medical, environmental and financial factors that underpin injuries. The Center of Research and Prevention of Injuries has considerable epidemiological expertise in several fields and its work is recognized on an international level.

The CEREPRI scientific associates participate in committees of publication, as reviewers to approved medical journals on issues related to accidents and also give orations and lectures in international Congresses.

The Center has undertaken a series of epidemiological investigations concerning unintentional and intentional injuries in Greece. Furthermore, a lot of doctoral thesis either published or under development, are based on data provided by CEREPRI.

Since 1991, more than 120 scientific papers concerning both intentional and unintentional injuries were published in epidemiological, pediatric and/or injury peer reviewed journals, which were used as a reference in more than 1.000 other international scientific papers.

Topics included:

- *Road traffic injuries*

Road traffic injuries are a major cause of death in the Greek population. To address this serious problem, CEREPRI conducts research and surveillance as well as provides scientific input for the development of road traffic safety strategies (Athens Tram Network related injuries, An investigation of victims admitted to the emergency departments for injuries occurring in the subway of Athens, Greece)

- *Playground safety*

As a sizeable, increasing fraction of children's activities, mainly of those living in urban centers, takes place in playgrounds, their safety is a matter of great importance. Information on playground injuries to children is vital for those who produce safety standards and equipment and those who plan playgrounds for children. Based on EDISS data, we investigated risk factors and issues of supervision and equipment suitability in relation to injuries in both public and private playgrounds.⁸CEREPRI is a member of the Playground Working Group of ANEC and participates in regular meetings. CEREPRI collaborators participated in the Playground Safety Round Table that was held at the 6th World Conference on Injury Prevention in Montreal, Canada, 2002.

- *Foreign body Injuries*

The etiology of choking injuries during childhood involves a variety of objects. Using EDISS data, we were able to explore the involvement of most objects that are known to be involved in the causality of such injuries that were recorded. Moreover, accidents provoked by the ingestion/aspiration of objects for which information concerning their implication in the etiology of choking injuries, not previously reported in international literature (inedibles in food product packaging, religious jewelry, metallic ring of the cans, etc), were recorded and could be identified in EDISS. This is why such injury surveillance systems that have proven an important capacity of capturing these accidents should be used as an early warning system. Safety standards for consumer products are of great importance as children may take a variety of substances accidentally such as medicines, household products and plants. Research based on EDISS data help identify both the prevalence and the special features of injuries that involve consumer products. An example was the Identification of Injuries due to Toys Commingled with Edibles. CEREPRI

initiated the examination and published a report of injury hazards of inedible toys (toys packaged with food) based on information derived from EDISS.

- *Burn injuries resulting from motorcycle exhaust pipes*

In economically developed countries motor-vehicle injuries constitute a dominant cause of mortality and serious morbidity that could lead to long-term sequela. CEREPRI studied burn injuries related to motorcycle exhaust pipes, in relation to person, environment and vehicle characteristics during a five-year period. The estimated countrywide incidence was 17 per 100,000 persons/year, with peak incidence during summer. The incidence was 2 times higher for children than for older persons and among the latter it was 60% higher among females than among males. Most of burn injuries (70.5%) concerned motorcycle passengers. The most frequent location of burn wounds was below the knee and particularly the right leg. This study led to conclusions and applicable measures to reduce substantially these injuries, like wearing pants instead of shorts, incorporating in the design of motorcycles external thermo resistant shields with adequate distance to the exhaust pipe, and avoiding riding with children on motorcycles.

- *Injuries in the Metro*

The Metro in Athens has become a major means of transportation for the city dwellers. In the short lifespan of the Metro, injuries are not very common but little is known about their special characteristics. CEREPRI studied these injuries and disseminated data to the public in the view of Olympic Games in 2004.

- *Injuries due to fireworks*

Injuries due to fireworks are a common problem in Greece, especially during Easter time. An epidemiological research was conducted about the existing preventive measures of these injuries and the sufficiency of the legislation.

- *Household injuries concerning children*

CEREPRI collaborators studied a variety of children injuries involving household devices like central heating systems and electrical appliances that can cause electric shocks, in attempt to identify their occurrence and characteristics and to provide preventive measures.

- *Injuries among infants*

Our research aims to distinguish the epidemiology of infant falls, identify specific risk factors and to investigate childhood injuries related to the use of baby bouncers in Greece in order to propose pertinent measures for preventing these injuries.

- *Injuries among elderly people*

Elderly people are at particular injury risk in several settings due to their motor, sensory and/or cognitive impairment. A thorough surveillance, detecting the particular characteristics, is needed in order to extrapolate effective preventive measures.

- *Injuries among disabled children*

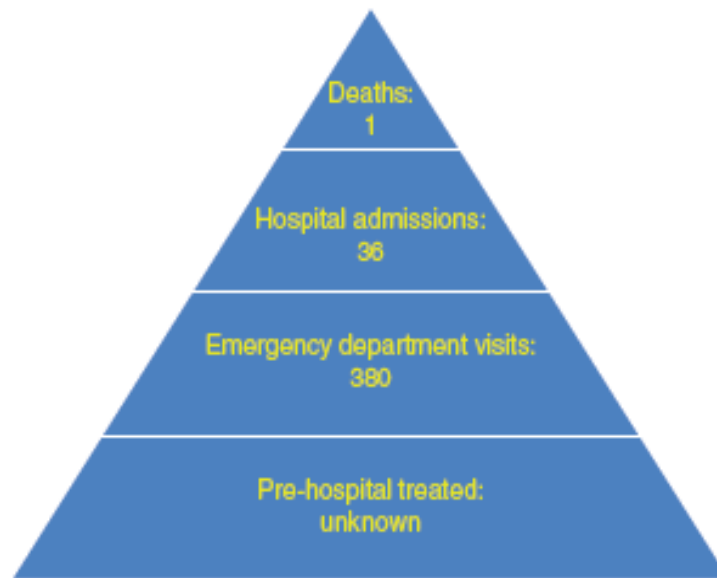
Our research compares the differential implications of sociodemographic and situational factors on the risk of injury among disabled and non-disabled children, based on data from the EDISS, in a quasi case-control approach. The results of the study provide the information for the targeting of trials of preventive measure in disabled children at increased risk of severe injuries.



See Appendix, Scientific Publications 1991-2010.

INJURY SURVEILLANCE

Much research has inevitably concentrated on fatal injuries because of the greater availability of data. Much less is about known about the long-term consequences of nonfatal injuries or the pre-hospital treatment of the injured persons (many more people seek help from their general practitioner or treat themselves and even more suffer from short- or long-term disabilities as a result of their injuries). This can be explained by the underreporting of the injuries inside (and outside) hospitals as well as the lack of follow up of the injured. In Greece for every injury fatality, an estimated 36 people are hospitalized, whereas 380 require outpatient treatment in hospital emergency departments.



The injury pyramid for all causes of injury, all ages in Greece (average number for 1998–2001). Data from National Statistical Service of Greece, average number for 1998–2001 and EDISS (Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System), data 1998–2001.

In Cerepri there are four main data sources for injuries. Injury Statistics Portal, Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System (EDISS), EU Hospital

Discharge Data (HDD) Web-Query System and Hellenic Statistical Authority. Injury Statistics Portal contains mortality data while EDISS and Query contain morbidity data. The EDISS contains hospital data. Apart from that, from time to time, CEREPRI collaborates with organizations and statistical authorities for the collection and the analysis of data related with injuries. In that direction, CEREPRI published a useful guide for injury data sources containing all the organizations in Greece, which collect and provide data about injuries and their data availability.



Injury Statistics Portal

In the field of accident and injury prevention, the importance of reliable statistics is unquestionable. Through the years, a large number of initiatives and projects have resulted in the availability of a noteworthy number of national and global sources of data and statistics (WHO, ESTAT, CARE, IDB, etc.) of varying detail, quality, accessibility and codification.

Yet the various developed sources provide different level of accessibility (e.g. on line, public, and restricted), different user interfaces and target different audiences (e.g. statisticians, researchers, epidemiologists). Therefore, there was a need to introduce a single-reference data source for injury-related statistics that would provide a simple and unified interface to all data sources and target a wide range of users.

The Injury Statistics Portal was developed by CEREPRI in the context of the EU co-funded project Secretariat of the European Working Party on Accidents and Injuries. ISP is a web database that provides EU injury-related statistics through a user-friendly interface. It is a single-reference point for accidents and injuries statistics. Meaningful and important statistics can be quickly and easily accessed, even by the non-experts, by simply using a few mouse-clicks. The Portal integrates statistically processed mortality data from the main European and international injury related databases making it easy for users to make queries. Specific topics concerning injury morbidity are also available. Additionally, it has been designed in a way that facilitates the frequent updating with the most current data from the featured data sources. Using the portal, you can research and conduct various queries such as to compare the magnitude of specific causes of injuries through a series of

years, or to compare the magnitude of specific causes of injury among different European member states, ages, and years, or even to compare results from two or more different data sources using the same set of query parameters.

Apart from the statistics produced in the context of DG SANCO funded projects on Accidents and Injuries the following data-sources have been considered for integration in the Portal:

- Community Road Accident Database (CARE): database on road accidents resulting in death or injury (no statistics on damage - only accidents)
- World Health Organization Statistical Information System (WHOSIS): injury mortality data by age and sex and specific cause of injury death
- EUROSTAT (New Cronos database): hospital discharges from injuries by country
- World Health Organisation European Health for All databases provided by the WHO European Office (HFA-D and HFA-M): injury mortality data (standardized death rates by country, gender and injury cause and discharges by country and gender for accidents for the due to injury and poisoning.
- Injury DataBase (IDB) & Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System (EDISS) : Supplementary to the other hospital discharge data sources, basic tables and charts for each kind of accident (as provided on the EHLASS reports)
- National Statistic Services

Since October 2005 the Statistics Portal is publicly accessible with more than 1228500 hits in the website (with an average of about 27000 hits/year in the last years) and now we are in process for the update of all the available data for the years 2006-2009 and for the EU-25 countries as well as accession and candidate countries, intentional and unintentional causes (ICD9 and ICD10 classified) and ages from 0 to 95+ grouped in many different ways. Mortality rates have been calculated (using population data provided by WHO) making possible the comparison between different countries and years.

Mortality rates have been calculated (using population data provided by WHO) making possible the comparison between different countries and years.

The user is able to define step-by-step all the available parameters like the countries of interest (distinct countries or groups of countries e.g. EU15, EU25, candidate countries, etc.), years (distinct years or groups of years e.g. last 3 available years), causes (distinct causes or groups of causes e.g. Falls, Poisoning, Transport), age-groups (detailed or more wide age groups), type of data (e.g. numbers, average of last 3 years, mortality rates) and get back the matching records. Mortality rates have been calculated (using population data provided by WHO) making possible the comparison between different countries and years.

Additionally data from the CARE database (a European database featuring traffic accidents mortality data) are available in the statistics portal, providing a more in depth insight on traffic accidents.

The Injury Statistics Portal can be visited at the following link http://www.euroipn.org/stats_portal

The screenshot displays the 'Mortality Data' section of a web portal. At the top, there is a header with logos for 'WP-AI Secretariat', 'CE.RE.PRI', and 'University of Athens', along with a search bar and navigation links: Home, Topics, Downloads, Your Account, Forums, Top 10.

The main content area is titled 'Mortality Data' and shows the 'Data Provider' as 'World Health Organization'. It is currently on 'STEP 2' of a query configuration process. The instructions state: 'Using the buttons below you can specify the parameters of your query. When finished, press the "Proceed" button to display the results.'

The query configuration options are:

- 1. COUNTRIES & YEARS
- 2. GENDER
- 3. CAUSE OF DEATH
- 4. AGE GROUPS
- 5. TYPE OF DATA

At the bottom of the configuration area are 'Back' and 'Proceed' buttons.

On the left side, there is a 'Site Areas' menu with links to Home, Calendar, Downloads, Encyclopedia, Feedback, Forums, Morbidity Data, Mortality Data, Recommend Us, Road Traffic Accidents Fatalities, Search, Site Statistics, Stories Archive, Surveys, Top 10, Topics, Web Links, and Your Account.

Below the menu is a 'Who's Online' section stating: 'There are currently, 2 guest(s) and 0 member(s) that are online. You are Anonymous user. You can register for free by clicking here.'

The browser's address bar at the bottom shows 'Internet'.

Hospital Discharge Data (HDD) Web-Query System

The EU Hospital Discharge Data (HDD) Web-Query System on injuries, providing the European citizens, policy makers and experts with a user-friendly application of severe injury, based on patient-level data from 18 EU countries. The system relies on routinely collected data and therefore, necessitated a minimum start off budget for the development of the infrastructure and population with data across the member states, as contrasted to other EU efforts relying on costly systems of new data collection and more ambitious targets. It uses computerized algorithms to accommodate for ICD-9-CM or ICD-10 coding and can be run with minimal maintenance costs.

The screenshot displays the APOLLO WP2 web-portal interface. At the top, a blue header bar contains the text "APOLLO WP2 THE BURDEN OF INJURIES IN THE EU - INDICATORS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PREVENTION AND CONTROL". Below this, the main content area includes a "Login" box on the left with fields for "User" and "Password", and a "Login" button. To the right of the login box, it says "Users logged in: 223". The central part of the page features the "Apollo WP2 Project" logo, which includes a green checkmark, the text "Based at the University of Navarra Spain", and the "un" logo of the "Universidad de Navarra". There is also a small map of Europe with stars. Below the logo, it says "For best performance use Internet Explorer". A warning icon is present next to the text "The aim of Apollo WP2 is to produce evidence relevant to European policy makers on the burden of injuries together with information on the efficiency of relevant injury prevention interventions." Below this, it says "Posted by Universidad de Navarra on Tuesday, May 30 2006 @ 16:02:51 GMT (Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health)". At the bottom, there is a red footer bar with the text "Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health", an "Exit" button, and the email address "apollowp2core@unav.es".

The Web-query which is developed in the context of the EC co-funded APOLLO Project "Strategies and Best Practices for the Reduction of Injuries" and coordinated by CEREPRI, can be freely assessed at:

<https://www.unav.es/preventiva/apollo/asistente/index.php>.

EDISS- Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System

CEREPRI has been assigned to collect, manage and analyze the HLA (Home and Leisure Activities) injuries in Greece through the former EHLASS project. In addition, CEREPRI also collects data for all kinds of injuries, including occupational and traffic. In 1995, EDISS (Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System) was created and contains data from 1996.

The system provides high quality data collected by trained health visitors through personal interviews with parents/guardians and the patients themselves who have been admitted to Accident and Emergency Departments of four hospitals around the country. The collaborating hospitals are the following: A. Kyriakou Children's Hospital, General Trauma Hospital "Asclapieion Voula's", and Regional Hospitals of Volos and Corfu. The two regional hospitals mainly cover injury cases from the respective administrative regions that represent their catchment areas. General Trauma Hospital "Asclapieion Voula's" is one of the two trauma hospitals in the Greater Athens region where most adult injury victims are admitted while childhood injuries are mainly admitted at the two children's hospitals in central Athens, one being A. Kyriakou Children's Hospital. Therefore, the results are considered to be of reasonable representativeness of injuries in the underlying population. The EDISS database contains more than 350,000 injury records along with an extensive file of variables associated with each case.

Data is coded using four different international coding systems: **ICD-9**, **ICD-10** (from 1998), **EHLASS** and **NOMESCO** whereas extra national codes and a free text is always available to provide further details about the injury event. As of 1999, volunteers have been participating in a pilot program of data codes **ICECI**. CEREPRI data can be made available - under certain conditions - to interested persons who may use this database for analytic epidemiological studies.

The importance of EDISS is resulted also from a study took place in our Department (Petridou ET, Yannis G, Terzidis A, Dessypris N, Germeni E, Evgenikos P, Tselenti N, Chaziris A, Skalkidis I. Linking emergency medical

department and road traffic police casualty data: a tool in assessing the burden of injuries in less resourced countries. *Traffic Inj Prev.* 2009;10:37-43). In this study, we tried to assess the magnitude of road traffic injuries in a country missing a formal linkage system of police with hospital data, quantify the underreporting, and produce a convenient algorithm exploring its constituent components. According to this study, EDISS captured 94.6% of nonfatal injuries, whereas RTP only captured 16% (coefficient: 6.238), resulting in a low overall concordance (10.6%). Considering severity of injury assessed by EDISS, by using the ISS as the gold standard, RTP data misclassified 20.3% of severe injuries as less severe, and a statistically significant difference in the underreporting by gender was also noted.



There is a rapidly increasing request for EDISS injury data by national and international institutes as well as private individuals, interested in the Center's valuable research information. In order to meet this demand, CEREPRI offers various means of distribution.

Injury data recorded, analyzed and interpreted by CEREPRI has been shared with the following selected institutes and private individuals:

- Polyclinic of the Olympic Village of Athens
- National School of Public Health CEREPRI provided statistical information regarding injuries of all causes among children and youth from birth to age 18.
- Hellenic Organization of Standardization (ELOT). CEREPRI provides ELOT with child injury data. This information is necessary in order to improve the existing standards of consumer products. CEREPRI attends ELOT committee meetings.
- CEREPRI actively collaborates with SOCPED in undertaking researches for the prevention of injuries.
- The Road Safety Institute “Panos Mylonas”. Supply of statistical data regarding road traffic accidents and especially those that happened on the way to work or returning back home from the workplace.
- 1st Surgery Department, “Ag. Kyriakou” Children Hospital. Supply of statistical data regarding accidents registered during 2000-2003 in the 1st Surgery Department of “Ag. Kyriakou” Children Hospital, derived from the Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System.
- European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC): Statistical information was provided for the following categories of injuries and objects that cause injuries:
 Falls from Playground equipment with height less than 60 cm and the Injury Severity, small cooking appliances, lighters, baby bath chairs, baby walkers and carriages.
 Data from the Greek Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System (EDISS) database during the years 1996 to 2002 that concern suffocations and foreign bodies to ear, nose, mouth, throat, lungs and internal abdomen that occurred to children (0-14). The tables shown

the distribution of gender, age, part of the body where the object was found, object, outcome, days of hospitalization and their combination. Supply of statistical data regarding drownings in swimming pools.

- University of Nottingham. Supply of data regarding injury prevention.
- Attiki Odos SA. Supply of statistical data regarding road traffic injuries.
- First Department of Pediatrics, “Ag Sofia” Children’s Hospital. Supply of statistical data regarding road road traffic injuries and supply of statistical data for distribution of Greek population by age, gender and nationality..
- Ministry of Development, Dept. of Consumer Affairs. Supply of statistical data regarding children accidents caused by defective products.
- Public Health Administration, Hellenic Ministry of Health & Welfare. Supply of data regarding number of injured children who visited the Emergency Departments of 4 hospitals in Greece for the years 1997-2003 through EDISS database.
- General Regional Hospital of Volos. Supply of statistical data regarding road traffic injuries for the years 1996-2003. Supply of Ehlass research results for the years 1998-2005. Statistical data regarding physical violence
- Health Administration, Prefecture of Piraeus. Supply of statistical data regarding football 5X5 injuries and winter sports to be used in Health Education programs.
- Europeiska (Swedish Insurance Company). Supply of statistical data regarding road traffic injuries of Swedish citizens in Greece.
- Pediatric Trauma Care. Supply of statistical data regarding children injuries.

- Hellenic Ministry of Health & Welfare, European Office of World Health Organization. Supply of information regarding the operation of Ehlass database for completion of a WHO questionnaire aiming at the development of an information system to support global violence and Unintentional Injury Prevention Efforts, in the context of the survey of the European Region, which is part of the WHO Global Survey on national responses to Violence and Injuries Project.
- Ministry of Development, Dept. of Consumer Affairs. Supply of statistical data regarding injuries from uncolored and unscented lamp oils and similar paraffinic liquids. Supply of information regarding the operation of Ehlass database for the Final Report “Methodology for systematic collection of statistics in relation to safety of services”. Health and Consumer Protection Directorate, European Commission. England, 2005: pp 1-110.
- University of Washington, Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Center. Supply of data regarding ISS and description of Ediss database to be used in a Prehospital trauma care study.
- “Ag. Sophia” Children’s Hospital. Supply of statistical data regarding injuries from lamp oils and similar paraffinic liquids.
- APSI, Portugal: Data for the playground accidents on children 0-4 years old.
- Ministry of Development- General Secretariat of Consumer Department of Technical Control: Data about injuries from candles.
- University of Edinburg, Royal School of Veterinary Studies : Data for injuries from dog bites.
- Department of Paediatrics in Children Hospital of Patra ‘KARAMANDEIO’: Data for children injuries.
- Department of Neurosurgery of Asklepieio Hospital of Voula: Data on contusions during athletics

RESEARCH

- Company of orthopaedic stuff IAMEX A.E.E: Data for injuries and athletics contusious
- ICE Ergonomics Ltd, UK: Statistical information on burns from electrical barbecues
- A' degree educational manager of Florina: information about refractive vision problems (myopia, astigmatism, hypermetropia)
- 12th Primary School in Drama, Greece: information about traffic education.
- European Research & Technology: Data for scalding and strangulation for children for the years 1996-2001.
- Flora Kassabeti, Reporter of magazine "My child and I": Data about homeinjuries in children older than 4 years old.
- Newspaper 'Kathimerini': Data about mechanisms of injuries for the ages 0-19.
- Consumer Risk Ltd, London: Statistical information on injuries that occur at home and during leisure time from the EHLASS database
- Swedish Consumer Agency: Statistical information on childhood injuries due to falls
- Greek Consumers Organization: Statistical information of annual injuries among children and youth for the examination of the safety of swimming pools
- Intensive Care Unit of the Children's Hospital A. Kyriakou: Statistical information of head injuries and foreign bodies
- The First Orthopedic Clinic of the A. Kyriakou Children's Hospital: Statistical information about children orthopedic injuries

- Police Road Traffic Department of Hania: Statistical information for insurance purposes of vehicle safety; seatbelts and baby car seats
- The Second Orthopedic Clinic of the General Trauma Hospital “Asclapieion Voula’s”: Statistical information related to the injuries among people 65 years and older, living in social institutes or senior citizen housing. Statistical information related to fractures, sprains and dislocations during sport activities
- Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Polytechnic School, Civil Engineering Department, Transportation and Organization Unit: Information regarding CEREPRI’s activities related to driving safety
- Surgery Clinic of General District Hospital of Volos: Statistical data of head injuries and fractures
- Orthopedic Clinic of General District Hospital of Volos: Statistical information related to upper limb fractures and traffic injuries
- Swedish National Institute of Public Health: statistic data about injuries in school- age children.



Publications with data from EDISS

- 1) Petridou ET, Yannis G, Terzidis A, Dessypris N, Germeni E, Evgenikos P, Tselenti N, Chaziris A, Skalkidis I. Linking emergency medical department and road traffic police casualty data: a tool in assessing the burden of injuries in less resourced countries. *Traffic Inj Prev*. 2009 Mar;10(1):37-43.
- 2) Farmakakis T, Dessypris N, Alexe DM, Frangakis C, Petoussis G, Malliori M, Petridou TE. Magnitude and object-specific hazards of aspiration and ingestion injuries among children in Greece. *Int J Pediatr Otorhinolaryngol*. 2007 Feb;71(2):317-24.
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- 4) Matzavakis I, Frangakis CE, Charalampopoulou A, Petridou E. Burn injuries related to motorcycle exhaust pipes: a study in Greece. *Burns*. 2005 May;31(3):372-4.
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- 7) Iakovakis I, Dessypris N, Dalamaga M, Petridou E. A cluster analysis of road traffic-related childhood knee injuries. *Child Care Health Dev.* 2003 Jul;29(4):297-301.
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- 11) Belechri M, Petridou E, Trichopoulos D. Bunk versus conventional beds: a comparative assessment of fall injury risk. *J Epidemiol Community Health.* 2002 Jun;56(6):413-7.
- 12) Petridou E, Moustaki M, Gemanaki E, Djeddah C, Trichopoulos D. Intentional childhood injuries in Greece 1996-97--data from a population-based Emergency Department Injury Surveillance System (EDISS). *Scand J Public Health.* 2001 Dec;29(4):279-84.

13) Petridou E, Dessypris N, Skalkidou A, Trichopoulos D. Are traffic injuries disproportionately more common among tourists in Greece? Struggling with incomplete data. *Accid Anal Prev.* 1999 Nov;31(6):611-5.

14) Vassilia K, Eleni P, Dimitrios T. Firework-related childhood injuries in Greece: a national problem. *Burns.* 2004 Mar;30(2):151-3.

The CEREPRI Library

The CEREPRI Library is a valuable source of scientific information containing publications, slides, videos, cd, presentations and educational material about injury prevention and control. The library is accessible to health professionals, teachers, journalists and students who wish to use the materials, which cannot be found in other libraries throughout the country.

Presently, the library has developed a computerized system to effectively cater to the needs of those who are not located in the Athens metropolitan area.

This year we emphasized in the wide dissemination of our library data and there was increased demand for data and materials for a variety of issues concerning injury prevention

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

1. Injury Prevention Programs at the Community Level

CEREPRI develops and implements intervention programs aimed at reducing injuries and enhancing safe behavior. These programs involve both the public and scientific community. CEREPRI has been a collaborative member in the following programs:

1.1 Unintentional Childhood Drowning Injury Prevention Campaign.

www.watersafety.gr



Drowning and near drowning **represent major causes of death and neurological impairment in childhood.** In Greece, as it is a country with a lengthy coastline and a desired tourist destination, drowning represents a significant cause of unintentional injury death in all age groups and the type of injury with the highest fatality rate. The **National Statistical Service of Greece** has recorded a total number of **5704 unintentional drowning deaths** during the last twenty years (1980-1999), that corresponds to a number of approximately **300 deaths per year.**

In the context of a two-year campaign of the European Child Safety Alliance for prevention and control of unintentional drowning injuries among children, CEREPRI, SOCPED (Hellenic Society for Social Pediatrics and Health Promotion) and JANSSEN CILAG have jointly designed and executed a three-year project in Greece (2002-2004). This project aimed at increasing awareness among the scientific and educational community, mass media, interested parties in the tourist sector and the public at large.



Preparatory work had started during 2002 and related to the assessment of the water safety knowledge and attitudes in the Greek population, as well as the development of educational kits for the implementation of the project in day care centers and elementary school children.

The Unintentional Childhood Drowning Prevention Campaign run according to its initial aims. CEREPRI's staff spread the basic messages of the campaign and sensitizing the general public for this common type of injury in Greece. In 2004 the main activities, concerning this campaign were:

- Videotapes with educational material were sent to the Ministry of Mercantile Marine, which promoted them to the commercial ships, for disseminating basic preventive measures to their crew and passengers, during the travel time.
- TV and radio messages were created and broadcasted during summer months
- Presentation to the staff of Hellas Flying Dolphins about prevention and control of unintentional drowning injuries, 19 May 2004, 10:00 am. Agis Terzidis, Dionisis Papadatos, Themis Spyridopoulos, High speed 4, Peraias
- Presentation to the nurseries of the nursery schools of Dimotiko Brefikomeio Dimou Athinaion, about prevention and control of unintentional drowning injuries among children, 27 May 2004, 10:00 am. Natassa Tsiga, Alexandra Kriela, Themis Spyridopoulos.
- Presentations at 17 Club of Friendship about prevention of drowning injuries and traffic injuries prevention, May and June 2004, Dionisis Papadatos

- Presentation at Keratsini about prevention of drowning injuries, 22 June 2004, Agis Terzidis, Dionisis Papadatos, Themis Spyridopoulos
- Collaboration with the Study Institute of Lampraki. They put in their site www.e-paideia.net an article of our center about drowning. We sent the program for the drowning, which was used for the presentation of a program for the security in the fluid environment.
- Collaboration with the company Cybex A.E. They asked articles about drowning in order to put it in their site www.beachreport.gr

1.2 Road Traffic Injury Prevention Campaign in Schools: “Getting around safely”, sponsored by Vodafone Foundation

As the World Health Organization decided that 2004 would be dedicated to road traffic injury (RTI) prevention and taking into account that every year in Greece 470 children, adolescents and young people younger than 25 years old lose their lives due to RTI, a program entitled "**Getting around safely**" was developed to be implemented in November 2004 under the auspices of the **Center of Research and Prevention of Injury (CEREPRI)** and sponsored by **Vodafone Foundation**. The program's aims are to create educational material for pupils and to disseminate information on road safety behavior to children. It is applied to kindergarten, primary and middle schools around Greece. The **Educational material that was created** in collaboration with teachers, psychologists and other scientists was adapted to each age group and it includes:



Kindergarten: Fairy tale for the whole class with messages concerning road safety, Memory game, Poster for the class, Poster for each student, Stickers.

A-F class of first grade school: Book of activities for the students, Stickers, Cards

Middle school: Activity book, Poster, Cards



Except from the material, which was distributed to the students, the educators had their own book, which contained a detailed description of the program and statistical evidence concerning road traffic injuries in Greece. The program was implemented in 55 municipalities and 163 schools countywide and evaluated, through questionnaires filled in by the pupils and the educators before and after its implementation. In each municipality, a meeting took place, aiming to promote the program and to sensitize the public, concerning road traffic injuries prevention.



1.3 Child Car Restraint Loan Program

Initiated by **CEREPRI** in collaboration with the Alexandra Maternity Hospital as of 1996, and being the first of its kind. This program increases awareness



among young parents as well as targeting the need for safe transportation of infants less than 8 months of age in automobiles through the provision of child car restraints, donated by the main distributors, to eligible families for a minimum fee and a period of approximately six months alternative,. On return of the infant car restraint, 82% had already purchased

the second-stage car restraint.

The program involves:

- Proper use of infant car seats is precisely defined, explained and presented by a specially trained health visitor to all participants.
- Specialists educate parents about the different types of car restraints dependent on the ages

Scientific contributions were given to the development of infant child restraints loan program on a local basis to the First Regional Health Authorities of South Aegean, which is still working.

The hospital is visited more frequently by low income families, but the educational level of those who decide to participate is significantly higher compared to that reported by the National Statistic Service for the same underlying population. The experience gained during these years points to the need for the development of highly personalized preventive interventions aiming to close socio-economic discrepancies in delivery of safety interventions.

The companies UNIKID and CHICCO provided the car restraints so far and on March 2004 CHICCO provided us with another 80 new child car seats. This program is still running in the premises of CEREPRI and it is considered to be one of the most effective intervention methods of reducing childhood morbidity and mortality due to road traffic injuries.

1.4 “Students’ Health Card”: Development and pilot testing of the program.

The mental and physical health care issues of medical students are increasingly recognized as both prevalent and complex. However recording and treating these problems can be a hard task. At the same time the importance of prevention for improving health status is widely recognized both for the general population and the therapists themselves. An Internet based health prevention program has been developed for medical students, in the context of the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology of Athens University Medical School

<http://karta.epi.net.gr/>



Specifically, the self- completed electronic health record aims to assess the health attitudes, concerns and needs of medical students as well as train them in preventive strategies and health promotion. Medical students answer the questions through Internet connection using a codename and password that ascertain anonymity and confidentiality. In the program, considerable emphasis is given on the assessment of various mental health problems, drug and alcohol abuse, life style and family history of mental health illness. The program aims include

the assessment of mental health needs of medical students, the sensitization of them about mental health issues and how to implement them both to themselves and their patients and the development of University Health Network to provide students with free medical care and services. Constructive implications for academic medicine are discussed regarding initiatives in the area of policy.



1.5 Project for the construction of two playgrounds in the greater Athens district.



Modern way of life restricts outdoor play for children and influences them to spend time in front of electronic screens. This life style contributes to the abnormal physical and spiritual development of children and the occurrence of illnesses, like obesity, which accounts for a serious public health problem in western societies. As obesity becomes a serious health problem for children it is increasingly important to encourage them to become more active. Taking into account that early childhood is a time of tremendous growth for children and the amount of physical activity positively affects the child's personality, **CEREPRI** decided to promote this point of view, for the benefit of Greek children.

Scientific collaborators of the Center decided to supervise the creation of two playgrounds in two municipalities in the Athens district (Neo Herakleio and Peristeri), by defining the standards for the construction of the playgrounds and for their equipment. The selection of the places where the playgrounds were constructed was based on the evidence that they should be comfortable, far from crowded streets and near or inside a park, so that children would be safe and adapted to the physical environment. Some of the standards for the selection of the company, which constructed the playgrounds, were safety, design, stimulation of physical development and creativity. The main target for the Center was to contribute to the creation of a social environment that supports learning, laughter and joy of play. The project was sponsored by **UNILEVER HELLAS**, started in April 2005 and was accomplished by the end of 2006.

2. Collaboration and Support of European Programs

CEREPRI collaborated and supported European Programs in conjunction with the Public Health Program (PHP) of the EC.

2.1 Improving the Response to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Military Settings

The main objective of this project that run under the auspices of the EU DAPHNE Program, was to design, develop, pilot test and evaluate an awareness-raising program aiming to sensitize young male population on IPV issues via an approach of IPV as a men's issue, involving men of all socio-economic and ethnic backgrounds, viewing men not as perpetrators or possible offenders, but as allies. At the very least, the aim was to raise awareness on IPV issues, with the best possible outcome being to provide them with the skills to become empowered bystanders, able to confront abusive peers as well as properly assist victims.

The pilot testing of the awareness-raising program took place between November 2005 and February 2006 in military settings of 5 European



countries, with 2000 male recruits participating. The material for the sensitization included a section consisting of oral lectures and interactive exercises, aiming to raise awareness on IPV issues such as definition(s), causal factors, effects on both women and men, and myths and realities. Increasing empathy for the victim, as well as “teaching” men how they could effectively prevent and intervene in IPV cases was also incorporated. Information leaflets were also distributed and IPV related articles were published in the armies’ newspapers in order to

reach as many men as possible.

measurement should be used, some months after the completion of training.

For further information, please visit www.uoa.gr/socmed/hygien/daphne

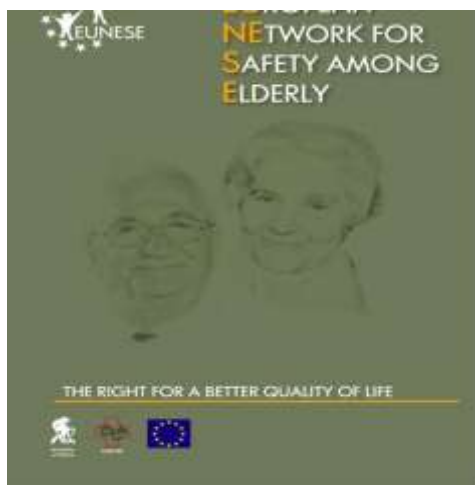
2.3 Fact Sheets, Leaflets and Other Educational Materials

2.3.1 European Code against Injuries (ECAI).



Developed in the context of the APOLLO Project “Strategies and Best Practices for the reduction of injuries”, co-funded by DG-SANCO and co-ordinated by CEREPRI. This code contains a series of messages to keep people safe from accidental injury. This code aimed to identify ways to overcome the barriers in applying best practices and efficient policies to achieve tangible prevention of unintentional injuries in all age groups.

2.3.2 EUNESE Fact Sheet Series: Key areas for action.



During 2007, the EUNESE fact sheet series regarding the five leading causes of unintentional injuries among seniors was produced and translated in English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish, and Portuguese.

EDUCATION

1. “Stick it well on your head!” Development and Implementation of a school-based program aiming to promote routine helmet use among eligible adolescent drivers.



Considering the persistent fatality trends for motorcycle and moped users in Greece, the “Stick it well on your head!” program was developed by CEREPRI, in order to promote two-wheel motorized vehicle (TWMV) helmet use among high-school students attending their second grade (~16 years), and therefore eligible to obtain a driving license for a moped. It consisted of four 45-minute sessions across a four-week period, whereas all sessions were delivered by specially trained research staff in collaboration with the school teachers.

The program was delivered during the winter semester 2008-2009 to a total of twelve schools (four public, four private and four vocational), situated in Attica. Program evaluation, which was included as an integral component of the program planning, allowed us to conceptualize in a concrete and tangible manner the degree of the program’s impact. Hence, by measuring students’ self-reported knowledge, attitudes and practices regarding helmet use in two different instances, namely at baseline and immediately after the intervention, noticeable and statistical significant positive changes were observed, enabling us to conclude that the program was effective in reaching the objectives for which it was established.

2. Teaching and Lectures

CEREPRI organizes and takes part in academic seminars, conferences and workshops for elementary, secondary and post secondary students and teachers.

CEREPRI collaborators also give orations and lectures at educational workshops. In addition, CEREPRI creates and organizes injury prevention seminars for undergraduate medical students and scientific collaborators. Programs focusing on areas such as first aid, therapy for burn injuries, epidemiology and prevention of near drowning and drowning unintentional injuries, have been implemented aiming to educate students in the context of the academic course of Preventive Medicine, of the University of Athens. Furthermore, CEREPRI uses the information gathered and interpreted by EDISS to train and teach both graduated and undergraduate medical university students about injury prevention strategies and control.

3. Developing Educational Materials

CEREPRI develops and supports educational injury prevention studies, programs and workshops for all levels of education. In this context, the Center develops educational materials including textbooks, leaflets, audiovisual and CD-ROM.

Εδώ μπορούν μάλλον να προστεθούν το module του daphne, το 7-step guide του EUNESE, το safe home booklet για το WG3, Pilot project 4 του EUNESE...)

Leaflets

- A Leaflet for the prevention of school injuries was designed and published in cooperation with the Administration of the A' Sanitary Region of Attica of the Ministry of Health and Welfare (CEREPRI provided the scientific content of the leaflet) and distributed it to all relevant hospitals.

- A Leaflet containing Useful tips for Housing Safety for the Elderly was developed in the context of the Pilot Project “Virtual modeling of a safe household environment for elderly citizens” assigned to the 3rd Working Group of EUNESE.
- 70.000 leaflets about drowning injuries by the Hellenic Life guarding Institute. These were distributed in primary schools, metro stations and open swimming pools.
- Development and printing of 6.000 leaflets on Intimate Partner Violence used for the sensitization of military recruits in the context of the DAPHNE Project "Improving the Response to Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) in Military Settings". They have been translated into 6 languages (Greek, English, Norwegian, Deutsch, French, Finnish)
- Reprint of 10.000 leaflets about seatbelts by CEREPRI. Handed out by traffic police of Athens: 2600 in the tolls of Elefsina and 2600 in the tolls of Malakasa during the exodus of Easter.
- Reprint of 75.000 leaflets about drowning injuries by Giochi Precciozi. A number of these were sent at Hellas Flying Dolphins Company and Blue Star Ferries Company.
- Reprint of 10.000 leaflets about drowning injuries by the A' Administration of Attica Sanitary Region, Directorate of Programming and Development of the Hellenic Ministry of Health and Welfare.



Textbooks

- **The Injury Prevention Undergraduate Module** is a textbook developed by CEREPRI and is taught in the context of the Preventive Medicine Course of the Medical School, University of Athens.



- **Epidemiology & Prevention of Injuries:** A comprehensive Chapter in the Greek Textbook for pre- and post-graduate health professionals: "Preventive Medicine & Public Health" was added in 2000.



INFORMING PUBLIC

CEREPRI communicates injury prevention information by responding to invitations, newspapers, reporters and general interest magazines.

CEREPRI collaborators were invited to speak on more than 30 national radio and television programs about the health concerns related to injuries and the prevention methods.

CEREPRI regularly publishes press releases about current issues related to injuries, thus offering the public an alternative source of information.

Our scientific staff was invited to speak on national radio and television programs about health concerns related to injuries and their prevention methods as well as providing relevant data for the publication of articles in Greek National and Local Newspapers and magazines.

ADVOCATING SAFETY- POLICY MAKING

CEREPRI reviews scientific evidence and generates new knowledge on injury prevention derived from the EDISS database to be used for the development of safer legislation regulations in the Greek and/ or the European Parliaments. In addition, through written communications, CEREPRI regularly informs public authorities and relevant services about hazardous areas (ie. playgrounds that are not regularly maintained), products (ie. baby walkers or toys commingled with edibles), and services, aiming to promote more effective health policies.

In regards to toys commingled with edibles, the activities of CEREPRI during 2004 consisted in continually informing the European Institutions on the necessity of taking specific measures to avoid accidents and deaths due to the ingestion of inedible (small toys mainly) which are commingled with food, especially snacks which are consumed mainly by small children. In this respect we provided our comments on the RPA report on inedible by providing incidents of accidents caused by small particles in foods and stressed the necessity of legislation at EU level to make these products safer. We also participated at the **ECOSA** Conference with presentations and posters manifesting the dangers caused by such products. We worked closely with the **European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Safety Representation (ANEC)** providing statistical information on accidents in Greece and responded to questionnaires on inedible. We closely collaborated with the Greek Consumers Association and provided them with EU information and Greek statistical information on accidents from inedible based on EDISS data. The report was discussed in the ANEC meetings and the Emergency Committee on the EU Food Safety Directive and the European Parliament brought the issue into consideration. The incident also underwent interpellation by the Hellenic Parliament.

Below we present an overview of our main activities and most important achievements in the field of intervention and strategic planning:

1. Vaccinations for the Safety of Medical Students from Workplace Hazards.

Implemented in 1999 by CEREPRI and under the supervision of pediatricians and master students, this program, is specially developed to protect fourth year medical students of the Preventive Medicine course at the University of Athens from infectious diseases. The course entails the following:



During their work term, undergraduates are:

During their work term, undergraduates are:

- vaccinated from MMR, DTP, Mantoux, Polio and Hepatitis A and B vaccines,
- educated to avoid work place hazards and
- informed about the need for volunteer assistance regarding social issues and trained in vaccination practice.

2. The Magnitude and Spectrum of Farm Injuries in European Countries

In Greece, occupational and leisure farm injuries are frequently serious and require hospitalization. These injuries show distinct patterns among specific groups and prevention strategies should give priority to these population groups. Initiated by CEREPRI and run under the auspices of DG SANCO within the framework of the Injury Prevention Program, this program developed indicators for facilitating the development of public health policies for prevention of farm injuries in the European Union countries. By ascertaining the burden on farm injuries in EU member states and identifying major risk factors and population groups at risk, we can then formulate a memorandum of commonly accepted practices of the prevention of farm injuries among the most vulnerable population groups.

3. APOLLO Project: an umbrella EU project on Strategies and Best Practices for the Reduction of Injuries. (CEREPRI, Coordinator)



APOLLO is an EU co-funded project which started in 2005 and had three year duration. APOLLO project aimed to provide: (a) the evidence on the health and financial burden of injuries and easily measurable indicators and (b) recommendations on how to overcome the barriers in applying existing best practices and efficient policies to decrease the most common injuries in the EU Member States with specification of success and failure factors for implementation of injury prevention programs in all age groups and all types of injuries. One of the main milestones that were achieved was the assessment and evaluation of the most effective practices and policies for injury prevention for all age groups. In order to identify the “best practices and policies”, other EU projects and organizations related to the prevention of injuries were located and systematic literature reviews were finalized. Questionnaires have been sent out to implementers of each one of the most effective preventive practices that aimed to identify success factors and barriers during the implementation of these interventions. Furthermore, exploratory studies targeted on risky taking behaviors of young adults were implemented in Greece and Italy through an e-questionnaire.

The main achievements of the project included:

- Development of the European Code against Injuries (ECAI). The Code is meant to promote simple key-messages that will enhance injury prevention in the public. It includes 60 key messages, divided in 10 prioritized categories of unintentional injuries, which aim primarily to promote the prevention of unintentional injuries amongst the general population. The Code has been pilot-tested in Greece, Spain and Hungary, and its official launch will be realized by the end of 2008.

- Success factors and barriers report for implemented good practices for injury prevention aiming to provide useful guidelines to future implementers and policy makers in injury prevention field.
- Systematic literature reviews on identified good prevention policies and good practices for four injury prevention priorities (alcohol-related injuries, road traffic injuries, drowning prevention and occupational injuries).
- Development of a web-based query system (user-friendly data on injuries related hospital discharge data). This web-query system (<http://www.unav.es/preventiva/apollo/asistente/>) has been built after consultation with experts from EU-ESTAT and other injury-related web-query systems around the world, such as the APOLLO leader's web-query system on fatal injury data, or the US- CDC National Center for Injury Control and Prevention WISQARS system.
- The WP-Leaders have participated in European and national conferences, presenting the activities and achievements of the project and have published the results of studies conducted in the context of the APOLLO in peer-reviewed journals.
- The Report on the Burden of Injuries in Europe.
- Creation and distribution of a series of policy briefings including topics such as the role of Public Health in injury prevention, National plans for injury prevention and the challenges of inequalities in injury risks.

For more information on the project's activities, please visit: <http://www.euroipn.org/apollo/>, e-mail: apollo@med.uoa.gr

4. EUNESE PROJECT: Priorities for Elderly Safety in Europe & the Five-Year Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Injuries among Senior Citizens in EU-27. (CEREPRI, Coordinator)

The project “**EUropean NEtwork for Safety among Elderly-EUNESE**” (2004-2007) was implemented within the framework of the European Commission Public Health Program. EUNESE mainly aimed to harmonize core activities pertaining to injury control and safety promotion among elderly in the EU in collaboration with 31 partners, including WHO-Euro.



On October 2006 the development of the Policy Manual including priorities for elderly safety and addressed to the policy makers at EU level was finalized, while a 5-Year Strategic Plan was drafted for the prevention of unintentional injuries among EU Senior Citizens. On May 2007, the 1st European Conference took place in Brussels with 75 participants including mainly medical doctors, academics, researchers and policy makers from EU countries, New Member States and the World Health Organization. The conference was considered a great opportunity for participants to exchange information and experience in injury prevention, good practices, research, policymaking, advocacy and networking. During 2007, the EUNESE fact sheet series regarding the five leading causes of unintentional injuries among seniors was produced and translated in English, French, German, Italian, Polish, Spanish, and Portuguese.

During the 2nd year of the project, a paper was drafted, entitled, “The Evolution of Injury Mortality among Elderly in Europe”. This paper has been accepted for publication in the peer reviewed Journal of Aging and Health. Hospital outpatients’ morbidity data for Austria, Denmark, France and Greece among elderly, with respect to the five main causes of injuries were analyzed by the Main Beneficiary team (report on proportional indicators). A systematic Literature Review was developed which aimed at identifying interventions designed to prevent injuries in the elderly for the five leading causes of death among the elderly in the EU-27.

Pilot Projects from three EU countries, namely Greece, Hungary, Poland, were drafted and included in the Final Report under the title “Guide for Implementers; A 7-Step Guide to implement successful interventions for injury prevention among elderly people (65+). In the context of disseminating EUNESE material, we proceeded over and beyond of any contractual obligation to the development of a Newsletters series on a bimonthly basis (from July 2007 up today).

5. European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Safety Representation (ANEC).



CEREPRI is a collaborating member of ANEC (European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardization). ANEC represents the consumer interest in the development and use of European technical standards as well as the development or revision of European legislation related to products and services. CEREPRI has participated in all the important events organized by ANEC such as the meetings of “ANEC Child Safety Working Group” where members had the opportunity to evaluate the current situation and set targets for the future. Statistical information was provided for the following categories of injuries and objects that cause injuries:

- Small cooking appliances
- Lighters
- Baby bath chairs
- Playgrounds
- Baby walkers
- Carriages
- Suffocation



For more info visit: <http://www.anec.org>

6. European Road Safety Charter.



Since 2004 CEREPRI have contributed to the improvement of road safety conditions through the European Road Safety Charter at local, regional, national or even European level. Enterprises, associations and public authorities are at the heart of this project. The Charter has achieved reduction in the number of accidents, the damage to the environment and the cost of raw materials. Due to an improvement in road safety, productivity and public health was improved. Public attention to risk was increased and corporate social responsibility got enhanced. The European Road Safety Charter has now reached a challenging second phase, promising greater visibility at European level, new partnerships with other enterprises, associations and public authorities and better understanding of road safety issues and challenges.

7. European Platform for Mental Health Promotion and Mental Disorder Prevention: indicators, interventions and policies (IMHPA) (CEREPRI partner).

The project aimed to develop and disseminate evidence-based mental health promotion and mental disorder prevention strategies across Europe and to facilitate their integration into countries' policies, programmes and health care professionals' daily clinical work. CEREPRI scientific team has contributed to the preparation of the country story for Greece regarding mental health promotion and mental disorder prevention, the results of which appear in the published report «Mental health promotion and mental disorder prevention across European Member States: a collection of country stories» European Communities; 2005: pp 1-198.

8. National plan of action for accidents.



National plan of action for accidents 2008 – 2012 is the first effort that takes place in our country in order to acquire targeted and strategic policy for public health. CEREPRI participates in this program by providing useful statistical data aiming to show the magnitude of the problem and to point the importance of prevention.

The exact planning of this program can be found at the following link: [//www.ygeianet.gov.gr](http://www.ygeianet.gov.gr).

NETWORKING

Joint scientific cooperation is the key to confronting a public health problem. It also provides a valuable means of sharing information in the attempt to achieve the most effective results. The prevention of injuries is not an exception. The collaborating associations of CEREPRI are comprised of governmental, non-governmental, academic and industrial institutions that have adopted the principle of social-business responsibilities and aim at the prevention and control of injuries.

1. Working Party on Accidents and Injury.



As of April 1, 2004 CEREPRI undertook to fulfill the responsibilities of the Secretariat of the Working Party on Accidents and Injuries (WP-AI) within the framework of the Public Health Program of the European Commission. During the two-year term, some of the key objectives are to:

- Maintain, strengthen and expand the Working Party on Accidents and Injuries
- Integrate new member states and applicant countries – develop a informative package regarding injury prevention information
- Ensure the compilation of injury statistical and epidemiological data documentation from existing sources in collaboration with the Eurostat and make them available to the Commission
- Development of a long term strategic plan for injury prevention

2. European Network for Safety among Elderly – EUNESE



EUNESE is an open, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural network developed in the context of the European project EUNESE, which is coordinated by the Centre for Research and Prevention of Injuries (CEREPRI) and run under the auspices of DG SANCO, within the framework of the Public Health Program of the European Union.

The main benefit of the EUNESE is that it operates as a platform providing all members and observers with the opportunity to exchange experience and information on elderly safety issues in an efficient way.

Other key EUNESE benefits for members include:

- access to information (fact sheets, figures, data, good practices, tools)
- accessibility to experts / professionals working on safety promotion among elderly people
- handbook of good practice, “what does work, what doesn’t work”
- access to participate actively in the activities of the 5 Year Strategic Plan for safety among EU senior citizens.

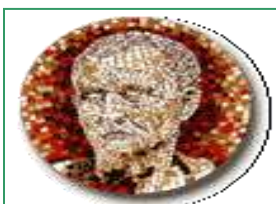
3. International Society for Violence & Injury Prevention (ISVIP)



ISVIP is an international forum for promoting violence and injury prevention. It will provide an opportunity for all relevant stakeholders to be advocates for the global advancement of a safer world.

Mission: ISVIP advocates for a global commitment to violence and injury prevention through establishing networks, supporting public policy actions and consequently enhancing research, education and initiatives in the areas of violence and injury prevention and safety promotion.

4. International Society for the Study of the Aging Male (ISSAM)



The Society aims to encourage physicians and other health-care professionals to understand male illness in the context of the aging process as a whole and to adopt a multi-disciplinary approach to caring for male patients. More specifically, the Society sets out to promote the concept of healthy aging.

5. National Network for the Prevention of Accidents and Violence (EDIPAV)



Taking into consideration the need to apply a common policy on injury prevention aimed at reducing injuries and violence in Greece, the CERERPI initiated the development of the National Network for the Prevention of Accidents and Violence (EDIPAV). This effort was greatly welcomed as the network has already over 70 member-institutions including ministries, governmental organizations, academic institutions, hospitals & NGOs.

The aim of EDIPAV is to create synergies and join forces with the relevant actors in the field of injury prevention, with the goal of dramatically reducing injuries and violence in Greece. A Protocol of Collaboration was signed by all members in November 2005. Other activities include the creation of a coordination team, composed of eleven members. During the first meeting (9/12/2005) of the coordinating team, an action plan was developed and divided into the following four thematic axes:

- Education: Objectives and frame of action, targeted to groups such as teachers-students-parents Epidemiological
- Indicators: Recording of existing situations, injury and violence data collection
- Population interventions: Home injuries, methods and interventions
- Communication: Coordination of communication activities to ensure messages are being effectively and efficiently communicated to the various target groups

For more info please visit:

<http://www.euroipn.org/cerepri/modules.php?name=Edipav>

The members of EDIPAV to date are given below:

Association of Social Paediatrics Friends- Open Arms

Athenian Institute of Lifeguards

Athens Technological Education Institute For Health Visitors

Center for the Dynamic of the Family and Youth

Center of Social Support and Instruction for Handicapped People

CVME (Research and Support Center for Victims of Maltreatment and Social Exclusion)

E.KAT.O - Hellenic Consumer Organization

EKPIZO (Consumers' Association "The Quality of Life")
ELOT SA, Hellenic Organization for Standardization
European Lifeguard Academy GR
First Regional Health System of Attika
General Hospital of Corfu
General Hospital of Volos
General Hospital Patision -Physiotherapy Department
Greek Association of Insurance Companies
Greek Association of Private Playgrounds
Harokopio University
Health Center of Kalabaka
Health Center of Neapolis
Health Center of Thermi
Hellenic General Secretariat for Youth
Hellenic Red Cross/ Nursing Department
Hellenic Republic Ministry of Health and Social Welfare
Hellenic Rescue Team
Hellenic Scientific Society of Physiotherapy
Hellenic Society for Social Pediatrics and Health Promotion
Injury Prevention Organization of W.Greece
Institute of Child Health - Department of Family Relations
Institute of Child Health - Sector of School Health Promotion
KAPI (Center for Open Protection of the Elderly) of Kapanitsa, Municipality
of Irakleio Attikis
KEPKA- Consumers' Protection Center
Kesariani Child Health Centre
Love For Children (Psychosocial Children and Family Support)
Medecins du Monde (delegation Hellenique)
Mental Health Center
Ministry of National Education & Religious Affairs
Ministry of Transport and Communications
Municipality of Zakynthos
National Centre of First-Aid
National School of Public Health- Department of Health Economics
Paediatric Trauma Care
Panhellenic Organization for Preschooler Pedagogues

Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences, Laboratory for Communication, Media and Culture
Paediatric Intensive Care Unit "Aglaia Kyriakou" Children's Hospital
Pnoe - Friends of Children in Intensive Care
Regional Health System of Cyclades
Second Health Region of Central Macedonia Administration
Second Regional and Welfare System of Attica
Secretariat General for Consumers
Social Care Unit "Anarotirio Pentelis"
The Smile of the Child
Theotokos Foundation
Third Health Region of Attica Administration
Traffic Police of Attica
Trohopedia- Greek Youth for Road Safety
UNICEF
University of Athens - Department of Nursing
University of Athens, Laboratory of Adapted Physical Activity / Developmental & Movement Disorders Faculty of Physical Education and Sport Science of Athens
University of Athens, Medical School, Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology
University of Athens, Medical School, Laboratory for the Research of the Musculoskeletal System
University of Athens, Medical School, Laboratory of Biostatistics
University of Crete, School of Medicine, Clinic of Social and Family Medicine
University of Piraeus- Department of Economics
University of the Aegean, Department of Sciences in Pre-School Education and Educational Design
University of Thessalia - Department of Paediatrics
University of Western Macedonia, Dept. of Elementary Education

6. The Electromagnetic Fields Information Program "ENIGMA"



The Electromagnetic Fields Information Program "ENIGMA" aims to set up a validation centre in order to provide information to specialist scientists and professionals who provide public health and prevention advice.

Given that there are several questions that can be posed about technology itself and its consequences, and that there is a considerable gap in terms of awareness on public health issues in Greece, it is considered to be exceptionally important to plan and implement information projects and actions such as this one.

The project includes developing a website to deliver information (www.enigma-program.gr) and pamphlets; while at the same time research is being conducted aiming to measure the views and ideas of specific focus groups.

The research project presented is related to recording the opinions of medical doctors on the potential consequences of electromagnetic fields generated by mobile telecommunications. This study revealed a considerable lack of proper briefing on this issue, coupled with much confusion.

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

The collaborating associations of CEREPRI are comprised of governmental, non-governmental, academic and industrial institutions that have adopted the principle of social-business responsibilities and aim at the prevention and control of injuries. In addition to our stable collaborations, partnerships with individuals, who share our interest in injury research and prevention, are developing and fruitful.

1. Governmental Organizations

- **Regional Health Centers (PESY)**

CEREPRI has cooperated with the Regional Health Center in the southern Aegean in Cyclades for the promotion of the Child Car Restraint Program in the Cyclades District. Parallel to this, the Center collaborated with the Regional Health Center of Thessalia and the Health Center of Kalabaka for the development of a recording system on injuries using up-to-date technologies. The scientist committee of the respective Health Center underwent training for the recording of injuries by using the MDS questionnaire that has been developed under the auspices of the European Project Minimum Data Sets on Injuries in the European Union. Moreover, CEREPRI has presented the EDISS database and has promoted the Minimum Data Set system to the representatives of the Health Center of Neapoli in Crete Hospital, in its premises on the 9th June 2005. Our scientific staff has informed the center about the procedure for organizing and registering data at the hospital. We also supplied them with the codes, the English MDS report, the data dictionary with the codes explanation, specific questionnaire and the lists that had to be filled-in to ensure the most effective operation and control of the database. The data collection initiated in August 2005 and our collaboration with the Health Center of Neapoli in Crete Hospital continues successfully by checking the coding and the progress of the project. CEREPRI also cooperates with the Health Center of Thermi in Thessaloniki, the Child Health Centre of Kaisariani, and the Health Center of Naxos by exchanging knowledge and sharing injury

prevention and safety promotion educational material and injury prevention campaigns.

2. Governmental Consumer Organizations

- **General Consumers' Federation of Greece (INKA)**

3. Non- Governmental Organizations

International Organizations and Committees

- **WHO (World Health Organization)**

<http://www.who.int/en/>



CEREPRI has collaborated widely with the World Health Organization by means of exchanging information and experience regarding injury prevention and safety promotion in the context of the Coordination and Administration (Secretariat) of the Working Party on Accidents and Injuries (WP-AI) within the framework of the Public Health Program (PHP) of the European Commission and the EUNESE project. The scientific collaborators of CEREPRI provide WHO with comments and scientific input prior to publication of injury prevention reports, background documents and newsletters and attend WHO meetings.

- **European Consumer Safety Association – European Child Safety Alliance**

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



- **European Child Safety Alliance (ECSA)**

<http://www.childsafetyeurope.org>



- **The Harvard Injury Control Research Center, School of Public Health of Harvard University.**

www.hsph.harvard.edu/hicrc



- **European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardization (ANEC).**

www.anec.org



CEREPRI was also part of the work teams of **ICE Ergonomics LTD**, **UK-Consumer Risk LTD** and **the Swedish Consumer Agency**. The Center participated in conferences providing knowledge and experience from Greece regarding prevention on injuries among children.



- **European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR)**
(free legal advice for road traffic victims in various EU countries)
www.fevr.org

National Organizations, Societies

- National Network for Prevention of Accidents and Violence (EDIPAV)

<http://www.euroipn.org/cerepri/modules.php?name=Edipav>



- The Hellenic Society for Social Pediatrics and Health Promotion (SOCPED)

www.socped.gr



- Trohopedia- Greek Youth for Road Safety



The Association Trohopedia is a non-profit organization, which has the aim to reduce the number of traffic accidents in Greece through the volunteer efforts of its members. It was founded in 1997 by medical students of Athens University Medical School. Through its efforts, the organization will promote driver and traffic safety education including, but not limited to, the use of seat belts and bicycle helmets and the dangers of driving while under the influence of alcohol. It's members were awarded by the Academy of Athens and the DG Commissioner.

Trohopedia achieves its purpose by:

1. Conducting educational outreach efforts to increase public awareness about the traffic accident prevention.
2. Collaborating with Greek, European and International organizations such as ELPA and the European Road safety Federation, which are concerned with the traffic accident prevention
3. Undertaking studies on traffic accident prevention, driving behavior and traffic education generally.
4. Developing exchange and educational programs for Association members in collaboration with the other European or international programs
5. Conducting congresses and seminars and drafting publications either independently or in cooperation with governmental or nongovernmental or scientific organizations to promote educational and information efforts regarding traffic accident prevention
6. Distributing information about participation in relevant congresses, seminars, training and research opportunities of European or international organizations
7. Publishing leaflets, scientific studies, monographs or other material to promote traffic education and other matters consistent with the Association purposes.
8. Promoting participation in existing international agreements as well as joint research programs with governmental agencies as well as private associations, organizations and corporations, domestic or foreign.
9. Lobbying governmental agencies and authorities on all matters relevant to traffic accident prevention and driver education

STAFF

The CEREPRI staff undertakes the information gathering and operations of the EDISS database, research, composing operation manuals and the development of informative materials. The staff participates in the organization of events for academic and governmental institutions and consumer associations. As well, the staff represents CEREPRI at national and international committees and corresponds with media networks to communicate the issue of injury prevention and control to the public.

The full-time staff consists of a dedicated number of associates who are committed to the principle of joint scientific partnership as well as industrial representatives who are governed by the principles of social-business responsibility. This team includes university professors, post-doc researchers, PhD candidates, and master students from both foreign and Greek universities who have chosen CEREPRI to complete their training.

The CEREPRI scientific associates participate in committees of publication, as reviewers to approved medical journals on issues related to accidents and also give orations and lectures in international Congresses. Since 1991, more than 120 scientific papers concerning both intentional and unintentional injuries were published in epidemiological, pediatric and/or injury peer reviewed journals, which were used as a reference in more than 1.000 other international scientific papers.



That's CEREPRI...



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APPENDIX

CEREPRI 2010: Scientific papers and reports

ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES AND ACCIDENTS

| No | Paper Title |
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| 1. | Η οδηγητική συμπεριφορά ως παράγοντας πρόκλησης τροχαίων ατυχημάτων. Ε. Πετρίδου, Ν. Σκεντέρης. Αρχεία Ελληνικής Ιατρικής. 1997;14:492-498 |
| 2. | Epidemiology of road traffic accidents during pleasure travelling: the evidence from the island of Crete. E. Petridou, H. Askitoroulou, D. Vourvahakis, Y. Skalkidis, D. Trichopoulos. Accid Anal Prev. 1997;29:687-693 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9316716 |
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| 4. | Person, time and place predictors of seat belt use in Athens, Greece. E. Petridou, Hellenic Road Traffic Police Department. J Epidemiol Community Health. 1998;52:534-535 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1756748/pdf/v052p00534.pdf |
| 5. | Car restraints and seating position for prevention of motor vehicle injuries in Greece. E. Petridou, A. Skalkidou, I. Lescohier, D. Trichopoulos. Arch Dis Child. 1998;78:335-339 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1717544/pdf/v078p00335.pdf |
| 6. | Fatalities from non use of seat belts and helmets in Greece: a nationwide appraisal. E. Petridou, Y. Skalkidis, N. Ioannou, D. Trichopoulos and the Hellenic Road Traffic Police. Accid Anal Prev. 1998;30:87-91 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/9542548 |
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| 10. | Τροχαία ατυχήματα και ασφαλής μεταφορά του παιδιού: καθίσματα ασφαλείας και ασφαλής θέση του παιδιού. Α. Σκαλκίδου, Ε. Πετρίδου, Ν. Σκεντέρης, Ε. Ανδρουλακάκης, Κ. Σκόνδρας, Γ. Πιστεύος, Ν. Βεράνης, Δ. Τριχόπουλος, Διεύθυνση Τροχαίας. Παιδιατρική. 1999;62:211-216 |
| 11. | Factors affecting motorcycle helmet use in the population of Greater Athens, Greece. A. Skalkidou, E. Petridou, F. Papadopoulos, N. Dessypris, D. Trichopoulos. Injury Prevention. 1999;5:264-267 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1730541/pdf/v005p00264.pdf |
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| 15. | Human factors in the causation of road traffic crashes. E. Petridou, M. Moustaki. Eur J Epidemiol. 2000;16:819-26 http://www.springerlink.com/content/t744709514287516/ |
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| 23. | Evaluating the impact of a school-based helmet promotion program on eligible adolescent drivers: different audiences, different needs? E. Germeni, C. Lionis, V. Kalampoki1, B. Davou, M. Belechri, E. Petridou. Health Educ Res. July 2010; http://her.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/cyq038 |

HOME AND LEISURE INJURIES

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| 44. | Towards a comprehensive view of fall-related head injuries among alpine skiers and snowboarders: a 10-year nationwide experience in Slovenia. Irena Grmek Košnik, Marjetka Hovnik Keršmanc, Alexios-Fotios A Mentis, Evi Germeni, Eleni Petridou. Submitted for publication. |

CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENT INJURIES

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| 45. | Διατομεακή πολιτική για πρόληψη ατυχημάτων: Ατυχήματα στη νεαρή ηλικία. Οι αριθμητικές διαστάσεις του προβλήματος. Γ. Σκαλκίδης, Β. Φλυτζάνη, Π. Τσελέντης, Ε. Πετρίδου. Δελτίο Α' ΠΙΚΠΑ. Αθήνα 1991 |
| 46. | Υγεία και ασφάλεια των παιδιών στην Ελλάδα. Ίδρυμα Ερευνών για το Παιδί "Σπύρος Δοξιάδης". 1993;48:2-3 |
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