

# Pennsylvania Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention and Awareness Program "Saving babies Lives One Family At A Time"

First Quarter 2007 Volume 3 Issue 1

# Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma Conference Scheduled for July in Hershey



Mark Dias, MD, Pediatric Neurosurgeon, Professor of Neurosurgery and Vice Chair of Clinical Neurosurgery at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center and the Pennsylvania SBS Nurse Coordinators are excited to announce the first of a kind conference on *Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma: Medical, Forensic and Scientific Advances and Prevention.* This research based conference will be held July 11-13, 2007 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey Pennsylvania.

This conference provides a unique opportunity to bring together clinicians (physicians & nurses), social workers, researchers, forensic scientists, engineers, and others from a wide range of disciplines to share their research efforts, discuss

research challenges and controversies in this field, and develop cross -disciplinary collaborations to further advance our understanding of abusive head injuries.

Abusive head injuries remain a significant medical and social problem in society. Significant progress has been made in our understanding of the presentation, radiographic features, pathology, and biomechanics of these injuries over the past four decades. Despite this progress, a number of controversies remain and much more research is needed.

A broad range of disciplines including clinicians, engineers, and forensic and basic scientists are working to advance knowledge in this field. Unfortunately, these disciplines often work in isolation each bringing their own points of view, research methodology, and even technical language to the problem. Interdisciplinary collaboration is infrequent and research is often fragmented and uncoordinated.

This conference has been approved for a maximum of 14.5 AMA PRA Category 1 Physician Credits, 17.4 contact hours from PNA for nurses, 1.5 Continuing Education Units from Penn State University & 14.5 credit hours from the State Board of Social Workers.

Please mark you calendar and plan to join us for this unique opportunity to interact and learn from those on the cutting edge of abusive head trauma research. For more information, a conference brochure or to register online go to: <a href="www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/abusiveheadtrauma">www.hmc.psu.edu/ce/abusiveheadtrauma</a>

A conference brochure is included as an insert in this newsletter for your convenience or to post on your clinical units.

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Please make note of new phone number for Dr. Dias & new Mail Code in address

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The Pediatric Intensive Care Unit of Children's Hospital at Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center provided care for fourteen babies who sustained abusive head injuries in central Pennsylvania in 2006.

## Cases of Infant Abusive Head Trauma Reported in 2006

The Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare ChildLine and Abuse Registry released the statistics of infant abusive head trauma in Pennsylvania for 2006.

There were sixty-eight documented cases of infants with head injuries that were confirmed to be the result of abuse including shaken baby syndrome. This compares to fifty-seven cases reported in 2005.

In 2006, of the sixty-eight infants injured: central PA reported twenty-one cases, eastern PA accounted for thirty-two cases and western PA had fifteen cases. Of those sixty-eight children, forty-seven were boys (69%) and twenty-one were girls (31%), ranging in age from 2 weeks old to 34 months old.

Sixty of the sixty-eight perpetrators were parents and/or mom's paramour (88%), five were babysitters (7%) and three were unknown (4%).

The abusive injuries included: skull fractures, subdural hematomas, brain edema, retinal hemorrhages, and permanent brain damage. Associated injuries included: rib fractures. Seven of these children died from their injuries!

Sixty-two of the infants were born in Pennsylvania hospitals therefore the parents should have been offered the SBS education at the time of the baby's birth. Five of these infants were born out of state and one was born in Puerto Rico.

To report cases of suspected child abuse to ChildLine call: 800-932-0313.

## Pennsylvania Department of Health Provides Financial Support to the PA SBS Program

We wish to thank the Pennsylvania Department of Health for their on-going support of the Pennsylvania Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention & Awareness Program and partial funding for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Through this collaboration we can continue to provide assistance, educational in-services and SBS supplies to ALL Pennsylvania birthing and children's hospitals free of charge and in compliance with PA Act 2002-176: The Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Act.

THANK YOU!



### **DID YOU KNOW...**

that there is currently a resolution (H.RES.67) in the House of Representatives proposing that the week of April 15-21, 2007 be designated **National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week?** In 1997 former President Jimmy Carter designated April as "National Child Abuse Prevention Month". The most recent National Child Abuse & Neglect Data System figures revealed that almost 900,000 children were the victims of abuse and neglect in the United States in 2002. Children one and younger accounted for 41.2 % of all child abuse & neglect fatalities in 2002. A 2003 report in The Journal of the American Medical Association estimated that 300 children will die and as many as 1,200 more will be injured each year as a result of Shaken Baby Syndrome. **National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week** would remember the victims of SBS and recognize the hospitals, child care councils, and other organizations who are actively educating the public nationwide about the dangers of shaking.

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#### 2006 END OF YEAR SBS REPORT ENCLOSED

We wish to thank all Pennsylvania birthing and children's hospitals who faithfully sent us their commitment statement data during 2006. The commitment statements that you submit along with the delivery numbers or NICU/PICU discharges that you report are entered into the Pennsylvania Shaken Baby Syndrome Database.

An End of Year Database Report is sent to all participating hospitals annually. Each Nurse Manager will receive a report specific to your hospital in this newsletter. Individual hospital and Pennsylvania Cumulative Reports are also sent to the Pennsylvania Department of Health.

Please review your report carefully and contact the SBS Nurse Coordinators if you find a discrepancy. If there are months that your hospital did not submit data, and you have it, it's not too late to add it. Just contact the SBS office with the new information. We will make adjustments in your database file and reissue a new report if necessary.

The data that you submit is vitally important in assessing the effectiveness of the SBS education that Pennsylvania nurses are providing. Please utilize the End of Year SBS Report as a QI tool to provide feedback to your staff on the effectiveness of your program.



2007 End of Year Database Reports are enclosed here for all Nurse Managers

## PA Department of Health Distributes SBS Posters

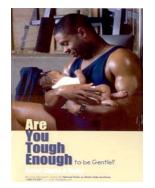
The Pennsylvania Department of Health will be mailing four posters on Shaken Baby Syndrome to all 121 Pennsylvania birthing & children's hospitals. These posters are free of charge. They serve as a reminder that it's never OK to shake a baby. Please prominently display these posters on your unit. If you need more posters or DOH SBS

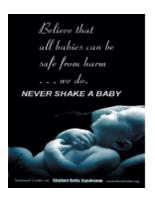
brochures, please contact:

Kimberly Early
Public Health Program Administrator
Pennsylvania Department of Health
Bureau of Family Health
7th Floor East, Health & Welfare Bldg
7th & Forster Streets
Harrisburg, PA 17120
717.772.2762
717.772.0323 Fax
kiearly@state.pa.us









# New Bilingual SBS Commitment Statements Now Available

The new PA SBS Commitment Statement forms have been modified with two significant changes:

- 1. The new forms are printed in BOTH English and Spanish. This will decrease the need for storing, ordering & printing two different forms. As always, these forms are FREE of charge to all PA Hospitals.
- 2. An area has been added to assist the nursing staff with documentation of the education that is being provided to each parent. Check boxes entitled: "Discussed with Nurse", "Viewed Video", & "Received Brochure" will allow the nurse to easily & clearly document the education that was provided to each parent. We encourage all nurses to consistently utilize this area of the form to document any information pertinent to the SBS education (e.g.: "Dad not involved", "Parents previously viewed video").

Please email the PA SBS Nurse Coordinators to let us know how you like these new forms. Your input is very important to us!



#### Preventing Infant Abusive Head Trauma Through Hospital-Based Parent Education

The Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention and Awareness Program was developed in 1998 in Upstate New York by Dr. Mark Dias, Pediatric Neurosurgeon. Since the inception of the SBS program, Upstate New York has reduced the incidence of SBS by nearly 50%. In 2002, the identical program was started as a pilot study in central Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania Bill 2002-176: The Shaken Baby Syndrome Education Act was passed. In 2004, through the generous funding of The Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency and in collaboration with The Pennsylvania Department of Health, Dr. Dias' program was extended to the eastern and western portions of the state. Since May 2006, 100% of the birthing and children's hospitals in Pennsylvania are participating in the collection of commitment statement data and the presentation of educational SBS information to parents at the time of the baby's birth according to the "Dias Model".

The Pennsylvania Shaken Baby Syndrome Prevention & Awareness Program provides nursing in-services, supplies, educational videos and guidance to all PA hospitals free of charge. Our goal, with your help, is to ensure that every parent of every child born in Pennsylvania receives education on shaken baby syndrome.

Please help us reduce the incidence of abusive head trauma in Pennsylvania's babies!



# The Hospital Corner

#### Thank you to all Pennsylvania Birthing and Children's Hospitals for your dedication to child abuse prevention!

Abington Hospital Albert Einstein Med. Center Allegheny General Hospital Altoona Hospital Armstrong Hospital Barnes-Kasson Hospital Berwick Hospital Bloomsburg Hospital Blue Mountain Health Hospital Bradford Regional Med. Center Brandywine Hospital **Butler Hospital** Carlisle Regional Med. Center Central Montgomery Hospital Chambersburg Hospital Charles Cole Memorial Hosp. Chester County Hospital Chestnut Hill Hospital Children's Hospital: Phila. Children's Hospital: Pittsburgh Clarion Hospital Clearfield Hospital Community Medical Center Conemaugh Hospital Crozer Chester Medical Center Delaware County Med. Center Doylestown Hospital Dubois Regional Med. Center Easton Hospital Elk Regional Health Center Ellwood City Hospital Ephrata Hospital

**Evangelical Hospital** Forbes Regional Med. Center Geisinger Medical Center Gettysburg Hospital GMC: Wyoming Valley Good Samaritan: Lebanon Grand View Hospital Hahnemann Univ. Hospital Hamot Medical Center Hanover General Hospital Harrisburg Hospital Hazelton General Hospital Heart of Lancaster Co. RMC Hershey Medical Center Holy Redeemer Hospital Holy Spirit Hospital Indiana Regional Med Center Jameson North Mem. Hosp J.C. Blair Memorial Hospital Jeanes Hospital Jennersville Regional Hosp. Latrobe Area Hospital Lehigh Valley Hospital Lewistown Hospital Lock Haven Hospital Magee Woman's Hospital Main Line: Bryn Mawr Main Line: Lankenau Main Line: Paoli Meadville Medical Center Medical Center of Beaver Memorial Hospital: Towanda

Memorial Hospital: York Mercy Hospital: Pittsburgh Mercy Hospital: Scranton Mercy Jeannette Hospital Mercy Suburban Gen Hosp. Millcreek Comm. Hospital Monongahela Valley Hosp. Montgomery Hospital Moses Taylor Hospital Mt. Nittany Med Center Nason Hospital Northeastern Hospital Ohio Valley Gen Hospital Pennsylvania Hospital Phoenixville Hospital Pocono Medical Center Pottstown Mem. Med. Ctr. Pottsville Hospital Punxsutawney Hospital Reading Hospital Riddle Memorial Hospital Robert Packer Hospital Sacred Heart Hospital Sewickley Valley Hospital Sharon Regional Health Soldiers & Sailors Memorial Somerset Hospital Center St. Christopher's Hospital St. Clair Hospital St. Joseph Hospital St. Luke's: Allentown St. Luke's: Bethlehem

St. Mary's Medical Center St. Vincent Medical Center Temple Lower Bucks Temple University Hospital Thomas Jefferson Hospital Titusville Area Hospital Tyler Memorial Hospital Uniontown Hospital United Community Hospital University of PA Med. Center UPMC: Bedford Memorial UPMC Horizon: Greenville UPMC Horizon: Farrell **UPMC:** Northwest Warren General Hospital Washington Hospital Wayne Memorial Hospital Waynesboro Hospital Western PA Hospital Westmoreland Regional Wilkes-Barre General Hosp. Williamsport Hospital Winber Medical Center Women & Babies:Lancaster York Hospital

