

Safe Infant Sleep: Reducing the Risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and Other Sleep-Related Causes of Infant Death

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Faculty

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Infant Sleep Safety

**Requires a consistent and repetitive message
at the local, state, and national level to
prevent sleep related infant deaths**



Terminology and Trends

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)

- Sudden and unexpected death of an infant younger than 1 year of age
- After a full investigation, these deaths may be diagnosed as:
 - Asphyxia
 - Cardiac arrhythmia
 - Entrapment

Sudden Unexpected Infant Death (SUID)

- Infection
- Ingestion
- Metabolic disease
- SIDS
- Suffocation
- Trauma
(accidental or non-accidental)

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

- Sudden, unexplained death of a baby younger than 1 year of age that doesn't have a known cause after a complete investigation
 - Complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and review of the clinical history

Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)

- In some cases, if the evidence is not clear or not enough information is available, the death is considered to be of undetermined cause

SIDS is Not...

- Preventable, but the risk can be reduced
- Caused by suffocation
- Caused by vomiting and / or choking
- Caused by the vaccine for diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DPT) or other immunizations

SIDS is Not...

- Contagious
- The result of child abuse or neglect
- The cause of every sudden infant death

Other Sleep-Related Causes of Infant Death

- Accidental Suffocation and Strangulation in Bed (ASSB): infant deaths caused by suffocation or asphyxia (blockage of the infant's airway) in a sleeping environment
- ASSB is a cause-of-death code used to describe deaths that result from:

Other Sleep-Related Causes of Infant Death

- Suffocation by co - sleeping or overlay
- Strangulation
- Suffocation by soft bedding
- Wedging or entrapment

Before we begin... Let's put things in perspective

- In 2009, there were 286 pediatric deaths nationwide from H1N1 Influenza
- These pediatric deaths were considered to be an epidemic
- Drastic public health measures were taken to reduce the spread (i.e. school, daycare closings)



Source: CDC 2009-2010 Seasonal Influenza Update Summary.
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/weeklyarchives2009-2010/09-10summary.htm>

Putting Things in Perspective

- 100 - 200 children die annually nationwide from Influenza
- In the US, there are standard recommendations for vaccinations
- With the energy that goes into educating and preventing Influenza related deaths, what are your thoughts about addressing the 109 sleep related infant deaths that occurred in Alabama in 2014?



Alabama Statistics



- In 2014, Alabama's IMR was 8.7 infant deaths per 1,000 live births
- In 2014, there were 109 sleep - related infant deaths in Alabama
- This accounted for 21% of the total IMR



ADPH Center for Health Statistics, Alabama, 2014