Nurses: The Frontline of Child Passenger Safety

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Core Essentials of a Successful CPS Program

- Administrator’s Support
- Program Development and Maintenance
- Support for Nurses and Other Healthcare Providers Trained in CPS
Administrator’s Support

- Advocate of the program
- Identify key stakeholders
- Provide Financial Support
Program Development and Maintenance

- Multidisciplinary Team
- Policies
- Training
- Outreach
- Liability
- Program Evaluation
Why Nurses Should Become Trained in Child Passenger Safety

- Motor vehicle crashes are the 2nd leading cause of death of children < 1 year of age and the leading cause of death for children > than 1 year of age through young adults, 24 years of age.

- When properly used, car seats decrease the risk of a fatal injury by 71% for infants and 54% for toddlers.
  - National Safety Council

- Nurses trained in child passenger safety have the opportunity to teach parents and caregivers

- Nurses along with physicians are respected members of the health profession
How to Select Nurses to be Trained in Child Passenger Safety

- Identify nurses, medical assistants and others who express an interest
- Don’t force staff members to attend child passenger safety training if they are not interested.
- Explain responsibilities and requirements to nurses, medical assistants, rehab professionals and other allied health members for each type of training available prior to the training.
Types of Child Passenger Safety Training Available for Nurses

- Operation Kids: Next Generation Child Passenger Safety Basic Awareness Course May 2013
  - National Safety Council, NHTSA
- National Child Passenger Safety Technician Certification Training
  - NHTSA
- Special Needs Transport In-Service for OTs, PTs and Other Hospital Personnel, National Center for the Safe Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs
  - Safe Kids Worldwide
- Safe Travel for All Children: Transporting Children with Special Healthcare Needs, Special Needs Enrichment Course
  - National Center for the Safe Transportation of Children with Special Healthcare Needs, [https://pediatrics.iu.edu](https://pediatrics.iu.edu)
Ways to Support and Retain Nurses as Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians

- Pay their wages while they attend the National CPS Technician Certification Training and the course registration fee
- Keep them informed of webinars, conferences, refresher courses and other ways to complete the required CEU’s
- Provide convenient opportunities to complete the recertification requirements
- Pay for them to attend local, state or national conferences
Ways to Support and Retain Nurses as Child Passenger Safety Technicians

- Pair new technicians with technicians that have more experience.
- Develop CEU’s through Safe Kids that meet specific needs of their patient population
- Encourage volunteerism at clinics or local permanent fitting stations
- Strengthen team camaraderie
Recognizing Nurses for Their Role in Child Passenger Safety

- Send them personalized thank you notes
- Recognize them for their accomplishments in front of their peers
- Communicate with leadership
  - Accomplishments, difficult transportation issues, car seat clinic and community event participation
- Nominate them for a child passenger safety award at a local, regional or national level
- Involve in media opportunities that arise
Ways to Celebrate Successes and Maintain a Strong CPS Program

- Celebrate program and individual’s milestones
- Recognize Technicians and Program accomplishments during National Child Passenger Safety Week
- Recognition on the hospitals social media platforms and local radio and news broadcasts
Thank You!

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