THE TRAUMA PREVENTION COALITION WELCOMES YOU TO THE
3RD ANNUAL
INJURY PREVENTION COORDINATORS SYMPOSIUM

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Michael (Mick) Ballesteros, PhD joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in 2001 as an Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Officer stationed for two years to CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in the Division of Unintentional Injury Prevention (DUIP). As an EIS officer and later as a staff epidemiologist, he developed research and programs involving drownings, poisonings, injuries related to residential fires, and older adult falls. He later served as the team lead for the Home and Recreation Injury Prevention Team, and currently is Chief of the Statistics, Programming, and Economics Branch in the Division of Analysis, Research, and Practice Integration (DARI) for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC). Dr. Ballesteros received a PhD. in epidemiology from the University of Maryland at Baltimore and is the author of over 30 peer reviewed publications.

Zara Cooper, MD, MSc, FACS is an acute care surgeon, trauma surgeon, and surgical intensivist certified in palliative medicine at Brigham and Women’s Hospital (BWH) in Boston. She was born and raised in New York City, received her undergraduate education at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, and received her medical degree and Master of Science in Community Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York City. Dr. Cooper is an Assistant Professor of Surgery at Harvard Medical School, and a recipient of the BWH President’s Young Investigators Award and the BWH Faculty Development Award. Her research focuses on improving end of life and palliative care as well as reducing non-beneficial care in critically ill surgical patients through improved patient provider communication. Her work also seeks to eliminate racial and income disparities in the treatment of critically ill surgical patients. Current research efforts aim to better understand how the surgical informed consent process influences care delivered to critically ill surgical patients; developing tools to predict which patients will have prolonged ICU stay after surgery, and efforts to improve pre-operative advanced care planning. She is also heavily involved in ethics and palliative care education for surgical residents. Dr. Cooper completed her general surgery residency and critical care fellowship at BWH and completed a Trauma fellowship at Harborview Medical Center and the University of Washington in Seattle. She has been on the staff at Brigham and Women’s Hospital since 2008.

Kate Allen Fox, MPP is currently acting as the Deputy Associate Director for Policy in CDC’s National Center for Injury Control and Prevention (NCIPC) and previously served as a health policy analyst on NCIPC’s Health Policy Team. Kate joined CDC in 2010 as a Presidential Management Fellow in the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control and then worked as special assistant to CDC’s Principal Deputy Director. She received her Master of Public Policy from the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) in 2010, where she specialized in health policy, and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, also from UCLA. Before joining CDC, she interned in several governmental offices, including Congresswoman Doris Matsui’s Washington DC office, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s office, and the UC Berkeley Labor Center.

Miranda Franco is a senior policy advisor in Holland & Knight’s Washington, D.C., office and a member of the firm’s Public Policy & Regulation Group. She has more than a decade of collective experience in health policy and government relations, representing advocacy positions to policymakers, national physician specialty societies, state medical societies, hospitals and other healthcare organizations. Ms. Franco has designed and promoted a variety of legislative and regulatory remedies on behalf of hospital, hospital system, life science, patient and provider groups. She has the ability to translate complex legal and regulatory issues into a practical, real-world framework to help her clients find solutions to healthcare’s most challenging problems. Prior to joining Holland & Knight, Ms. Franco served as the government affairs representative for the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA), where she led the association’s advocacy efforts to help medical group practices meet the challenges posed by a rapidly evolving healthcare marketplace. Prior to joining the MGMA, Ms. Franco worked for the American Society of Plastic Surgeons, lobbying members of Congress on federal health care issues, in particular Medicare reimbursement.

Debby Boy Gerhardtstein, RN, BSN, MA, is the executive director of the ThinkFirst National Injury Prevention Foundation. Debby completed her undergraduate work at Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL. She has an MA in Organizational Leadership with a concentration in nonprofit management from Lewis University, Romeoville, IL. Debby has served on the ThinkFirst Board of Directors since 2001, and has been the executive director since 2007, overseeing operations, training and program development, and hosting the annual ThinkFirst Conference on Injury Prevention. She is active in national injury prevention committees, is an author on several injury prevention articles and studies and has presented on injury prevention topics at numerous state and national conferences over the past twenty years. Prior to this position, Debby was the Manager for Injury Prevention and Community Education, as well as the Director for the ThinkFirst Illinois State Chapter and Training Center at Central DuPage Hospital (CDH), Winfield, Illinois for 13 years. As an adjunct to ThinkFirst For Kids she created RIDE SMART, a bicycle safety loaner program, used by teachers and parents to educate children in preschool through grade 2 on bicycle safety and helmet use. Previous to her work in injury prevention, Debby worked 18 years in patient care, from ICU, to medical surgical nursing, to rehabilitation, as a Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse (CRRN).
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KenyaHazzlewood, BSN, MPH, RN, works at Howard University Hospital, a Level 1 Trauma Center, where she serves as the Trauma Program Manager. Ms. Hazzlewood is responsible for developing, organizing, implementing, coordinating and evaluating functions of the interdisciplinary Trauma Service. She held previous positions as the Injury Prevention and Outreach Coordinator and Trauma Educator at George Washington University Hospital (Level 1) and Prince George's Hospital Center (Level 2). In those positions she identified national trends as they applied to targeted populations. Her other duties included organizing, presenting and evaluating injury prevention programs in the community and providing trauma education to nurses and physicians. Kenyatta is the past chair and co-chair of the Society of Trauma Nurses Injury Prevention Committee and an author and faculty of the American Trauma Society’s, Injury Prevention Course. She also is a founding member of the District of Columbia Trauma Coordinators Collaborative (DC-TIPCC). Prior to being a nurse Kenyatta worked on various projects within the District of Columbia Department of Health including the initiation of OraQuick HIV testing and working to expand the District’s Immunization Registry. She earned a Bachelor’s of Science in Health Management and a Bachelor’s of Science in Nursing from Howard University, and her Masters of Public Health from The George Washington University both in Washington, DC.

Dr. Richard Hunt, FACP served as Director for Medical Preparedness Policy, National Security Staff, The White House from 2013 to 2015. At the White House he played a critical role in the response to the Ebola crisis and led the "Stop the Bleed" initiative. He currently is the Senior Medical Advisor for National Healthcare Preparedness Programs in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response at the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Prior to his positions in Washington, Dr. Hunt was Distinguished Consultant and Director of the Division of Injury Response at CDC’s Injury Center. Prior to federal service he served was Professor and Chair of the Department of Emergency Medicine at SUNY Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY. He is a Past President of the National Association of EMS Physicians. Dr. Hunt is board certified in emergency medicine and is an Adjunct Professor of Emergency Medicine at Emory University School of Medicine.

Deborah Kuhl, MD, FACS is a trauma and general surgeon in Las Vegas. She is a professor of surgery and chief of critical care at the University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine. Dr. Kuhl is attending surgeon in general surgery, trauma surgery and critical care at University Medical Center, where she is the medical director of the 14-bed trauma intensive care unit. She is board certified in general surgery and surgical critical care and is a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American College of Critical Care Medicine. Dr. Kuhl is program director of the Surgical Critical Care Fellowship and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs. Dr. Kuhl is active in local and national professional organizations and is appointed to the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, where she chairs the Injury Prevention Committee. She is on the Board of Trustees of Clark County Medical Society. Dr. Kuhl’s research interests include injury prevention, nutrition and metabolism in critical illness, and medical education. She was one of a select group of 15 to receive the Women to Watch Award from the Greenspun Media Group business publication, VEGAS INC, on January 2013.

Anna Newcomb, Ph.D., MSW, L.C.S.W. is the Trauma Research Manager at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Virginia. At Inova Fairfax Hospital she coordinates the research program in the trauma department, providing guidance on hospital program development as well as research methodology, implementation, and analysis. Dr. Newcomb’s primary area of expertise is the experience of trauma patients and families following trauma and during the recovery process, and has been involved in the development of a large multicenter study coordinated by the Johns Hopkins School of Public Health focusing on the support of trauma patients and families. Dr. Newcomb received her PhD in Health Policy and Management from Johns Hopkins University, her MSW from the Catholic University of America, and her BA from Oberlin College.

Glen Tinkoff, MD, FACS, FCCM currently serves as the System Chief for Trauma and Acute Care Surgery at University Hospitals in Cleveland, Ohio, an 11 hospital regional health care system serving northeast Ohio. Dr. Tinkoff has an appointment as a clinical professor of surgery at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland, OH. He received his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati, School of Medicine and completed his general surgery residency at Lankenau Hospital in Philadelphia, PA. He completed fellowship in surgical critical care at State University of New York at Stony Brook and trauma research at Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown, PA. After fellowship, he was recruited in 1992 to Christiana Care Health System as the trauma medical director and was appointed Vice Chair of Surgery, a position in which he served until 2018. He served as the Delaware Division of Public Health’s medical advisor to the State trauma system for 16 years. He has numerous peer reviewed publications, invited lectures on clinical issues in acute care surgery, trauma center and systems administration and management, and injury prevention and control. Dr. Tinkoff has served as chair of the injury prevention committees of both the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and the Easton Association for the Surgery of Trauma. He is a member of the board of the American Trauma Society and in the founding chair of the Trauma Prevention Coalition.
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Pina Violano, PhD, MSPH, RN-BC, CCRN, CPS-T is the Manager for Injury Prevention, Community Outreach, and Research, for Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital. Inspired by the injured children she once cared for in her past role as a Critical Care registered nurse, Pina now extends her reach by developing injury prevention strategies on a local, state and national level. Her collaboration with the city of New Haven on the Street Smarts Pedestrian Safety Initiative helped the Yale New Haven Children’s Hospital receive the designation of Injury Free Coalition for Kids of New Haven. The current focus of her injury prevention programs include establishing a car seat program that has provided over 350 car seats to high-risk families in need; the TXT U LBR campaign, a unique peer-to-peer initiative focused on the dangers of texting while driving, funded by the Allstate Foundation; and the Walk Safe Program, a program that educates children on safe pedestrian practices that is funded by the American Trauma Society. Pina most recently received the 2011 Child Passenger Safety Technician of the Year Award for outstanding service to the field by the National Child Passenger Safety Board. Pina received her Bachelor of Nursing from Quinnipiac University, her Masters of Public Health from Southern Connecticut State University and her PhD in Public Health Education and Promotion from Walden University.

Stewart Williams is the Injury Prevention Manager at Dell Children’s Medical Center of Central Texas. Mr. Williams leads a team of injury prevention coordinators that deliver interventions and services to the community and to patient families. He currently serves on the Safe States Alliance Executive Committee as a Member At Large. He began his career working in passenger safety for US Airways Express in 1997. After September 11, 2001, with the downturn in air travel, Mr. Williams went to work for The American Trauma Society, Pennsylvania Division and then transitioned to Safe Kids Pennsylvania. Prior to his arrival in Austin, Texas, Mr. Williams was employed by the Pennsylvania Department of Health as a Public Health Program Administrator. During his tenure at the department, Mr. Williams led the health professions survey process, the state health improvement plan for the Commonwealth, and worked with dental provider shortages, before assuming the role in the childhood injury prevention program. Stewart received his BA in Business Administration from Albright College and a Certificate in Epidemiology from the University of North Carolina, Gillings School of Global Public Health.

Ian P. Weston, MPP, QAS serves as executive director of the American Trauma Society, leading efforts to grow and support the organization’s programs, research, and resources. At the ATS, Ian focuses on the development of trauma systems, regionalized systems of care and resources to assist providers in the treatment of trauma patients. Prior to joining ATS, Ian served as the Director of the HHS Emergency Medical Services for Children Program, National Resource Center at Children’s National Medical Center. As the lead for the State Partnership Technical Assistance Team, Ian was responsible for providing support and guidance to EMSC state and territory programs and efforts to ensure emergency medical programs were adequately prepared to care for children. Ian previously served as Senior Director of Government Affairs and Policy & CFO for Jeffrey Kimbell and Associates, a health care/life sciences policy and lobbying firm, and as Legislative Assistant to U.S. Congressman John Sweeney (NY). Ian holds a M.A. in Public Policy (Global Medical and Health Systems) from George Mason University and received his B.A. in Public Policy & Political Science from Syracuse University.