INTRODUCTION

Motor Vehicle injuries are a leading cause of death and disability among children. Car seat use reduces the risk for injury in a crash by 71-82% for children. 1

Participants: Parents of children 0-30 months

Setting: Well child visits (ECU Pediatrics Outpatient Clinic) and existing NICU discharge classes at Vidant Medical Center.

METHODS

Pre-Intervention Data Collection

6 question pre-test on Child Passenger Safety that was previously used by Eastern Carolina Injury Prevention Program to assess theoretical knowledge was completed.

Intervention 1: Theoretical Education

5-10 minute verbal education on Car Seat selection, location, direction, installation, and harnessing was provided.

Intervention 2: Practical Education

With patient car seat or educational car seats, parents were instructed to harness child as they typically would and hands on education was completed.

Post-Intervention Data Collection

Misuses were counted during practical education for each parent and the post test was completed. Parents were called within one month to complete a post-post survey to measure retention of knowledge.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSIONS

Preliminary data shows:

• 88.8% of parents scored at least 5/6 questions correctly on the pre-test survey, indicating good theoretical knowledge before intervention

• 89.7% of parents had at least 1 car seat misuse that could make the car seat less effective.

• On average, there were 1.9 misuses per participant.

COMMON MISUSES

1. Excess/unapproved car seat accessories
2. Loose harness straps
3. Low retainer clip

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