
Challenges in Prevention of Abusive Head Trauma

Date:

Oct 2015

[Visit Article](#)

In the early 1970s, Caffey described infants exposed to physical child abuse with subdural hemorrhages, retinal hemorrhages, and fractures, a pattern of injuries he attributed to whiplash shaken infant syndrome. Noting the significant risk for morbidity and mortality associated with the intracranial injuries, Caffey called for a nationwide educational campaign against the shaking, slapping, jerking, and jolting of infants' heads. Over the past 40 years, the terminology used to describe these traumatic brain injuries has changed. Our understanding of the epidemiology and risk factors for abusive head trauma (AHT) has increased. We have also seen significant advances in the diagnosis and medical management of these injuries, but we are still grappling with how to prevent them.

Journal:

[JAMA Pediatrics](#)

Authors:

Wood J

Topics

[Equitable Access to Services](#)

Related Content

[Emergency department visits and hospitalizations for injuries among infants and children following statewide implementation of a home visitation model](#)

[Local macroeconomic trends and hospital admissions for child abuse, 2000-2009](#)

[Variation in Occult Injury Screening for Children with Suspected Abuse in Selected U.S. Children's Hospitals](#)

[Evaluation for Occult Fractures in Injured Children](#)

[Association of Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma Rates With Macroeconomic Indicators](#)