

Fall Prevention
Community of Practice
ADULT+JUNIOR

Town Hall on Childhood Fall Prevention: What Can We Do Collectively?

September 23, 2020 12:00 PM EST

The National Advisory Committee on Childhood Fall Prevention

THIS WEBINAR IS BEING RECORDED.
THE SLIDE DECK AND RECORDING WILL BE
EMAILED AFTER THE WEBINAR.

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FEATURED DISCUSSIONS

CHILDREN'S UNSTRUCTURED PLAY AND
ACTIVE OUTDOOR RECREATION
STATEMENTS - BALANCING RISK AND
BENEFITS

Last updated on October 5, 2019



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WEBINARS

The Fall Prevention CoP hosts a number of webinars each year on diverse fall prevention topics. We present webinars in English and French. Loop members are invited to register for webinars to attend live and interact with the presenter and other participants. [Subscribe](#) to our newsletter to receive emails about upcoming webinars. For those unable to attend live, the webinars are recorded and posted on YouTube.

For most webinars, you can download the slide deck and a handout with more information on the topic.

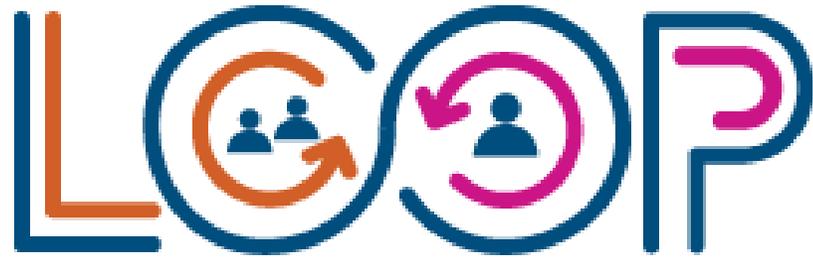
[SEE OUR ARCHIVED WEBINARS](#)

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR RECENT ENGLISH WEBINARS.

There are additional webinar recordings on our [YouTube channel](#).

You can make the videos bigger by clicking the "Full Screen" icon at the bottom right of the video player.

ASSESSMENT OF SAFE 4-WHEELED MOBILITY AID USE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA: THE SAFE USE OF MOBILITY AID CHECKLIST



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Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation
Fondation ontarienne de neurotraumatologie

ABOUT YOU

POLL Question 1

Which province or territory are you from?

- a) Alberta
- b) British Columbia
- c) Manitoba
- d) Atlantic (New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island)
- e) Territories (Northwest Territories, Nunavut, Yukon)
- f) Ontario
- g) Quebec
- h) Saskatchewan

ABOUT
YOU

POLL Question 2

How much of your current work is directly related to childhood fall prevention?

- a) All of my work
- b) Most of my work
- c) Some of my work
- d) Little of my work
- e) None of my work
- f) N/A

- Common understanding of the Canadian context of, and capacity for, childhood fall prevention work
- Common understanding of Canadian practitioner perspectives in doing this work
- Collective actions identified in the field of childhood fall prevention (what, who, how and when)



Environmental Scans on Childhood Fall Prevention: What? So what? Now what?

Presented by H el ene Gagn e, Program Director
Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation



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Fondation ontarienne de neurotraumatologie

First Environmental Scan – March 2019

- Preventing Fall-Related Injuries in Children: An Environmental Scan of Resources and Evidence-Informed Best Practices
- Designed to serve as a resource for fostering inter-organizational collaboration on child fall prevention and planning child fall prevention initiatives
- Funded by the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation
- <https://onf.org/research/prevention-research/>

The Scan Provides:

- an overview of the nature and scope of fall-related injuries in children, including the key contributory risk factors and risk conditions;
- a summary of evidence-based practices, programs, environmental supports and regulatory measures for preventing fall-related injuries in children;
- a description of the relationship between child fall prevention and the emerging concepts of physical literacy and risky play
- an overview of Canadian organizations engaged in child fall prevention initiatives; and
- a list of priorities for further research and interventions to strengthen the impact of child fall prevention efforts.

Childhood Fall Prevention National Advisory Committee

Stephanie Cowle, Director, Knowledge
Translation, Parachute

Cara Zukewich, Child Injury Prevention Program
Coordinator, Saskatchewan Prevention Institute

Chantal Walsh, Health Promotion Specialist,
Child Safety Link

Hélène Gagné, Program Director, Ontario
Neurotrauma Foundation

Cynthia Menzies, Program Specialist, Winnipeg
Regional Health Authority

André Champagne, Epidemiologist, Public Health
Agency of Canada

Liane Fransblow, Trauma Coordinator, Injury
Prevention Program
Montreal Children's Hospital Trauma Centre

Dr. Kathy Belton, Associate Director, Injury
Prevention Centre, University of Alberta

Second Environmental Scan – March 2020

Goals:

- Seek input from practitioners in the field about the first environmental scan
- Discuss their networks and collaborations, better understand practice issues and challenges, and gather thoughts on how to better engage potential members.
- Update with additional resources and more current information
- Funded by the Ontario Neurotrauma Foundation

- A total of 21 interviews were conducted with 23 key informants
- Interviewed using an open-ended, semi-structured questionnaire with 7 questions.
- Informants are: health promotion leads and coordinators, injury prevention specialists and policy consultants, trauma coordinators, researchers and data experts and agency planners.

To get the stakeholders' impressions of the environmental scan, discuss their networks and collaborations, better understand practice issues and challenges, and gather thoughts on how to better engage potential members in Loop Junior and childhood fall prevention in general.



FINDINGS

Trends, Patterns and Emerging Contextual Issues

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN FALLS in OLDER ADULTS and CHILDREN



Awareness

Of the issue and dismissal
of childhood falls



Competition

for resources



Degree

of injury and what should be
a focus



Where

childhood fall prevention fits
in terms of priorities and
approach

Jurisdictional

fragmentary approaches to childhood fall prevention where adoption of policy and practice is piecemeal

Mandates and Organizational Relationships

mandates between health authorities, organizations, hospitals do not connect regarding childhood fall prevention

Health and Public Health:

ongoing disconnect between health/hospitals and public health

Many Concepts Covers

risky play, active play,
unstructured play,
physical literacy, harm
reduction

Parenting

the need to teach
children how to safely
take risks, balance in
injury prevention
between healthy child
development and risks
exploring the world

Practical Challenges

playground standards
too rigid, need a national
conversation to address
the challenges of
jurisdictional siloes





Low Socioeconomic Status (SES), Immigrants and Refugees, Indigenous Peoples

- Broader community safety issues other than falls
- Building trust with vulnerable populations and utilizing appropriate approaches



ADDRESSING PRACTICAL CHALLENGES

- Implementing social policies that address local community context
- Getting the attention of stakeholders working in active living
- Having formal and informal collaborations
- Changing system landscapes and structures
- Difficulty identifying stakeholders working in the field
- Having sufficient resources and prioritizing
- Making the information culturally relevant





RECOMMENDATIONS

Trends, Patterns and Emerging Contextual Issues

-  Take a broader approach to “Child Safety: at home, play and school” and situate childhood fall prevention within that.
-  Bring the differing schools of thought together to address the tensions between helicopter parenting and overly restrictive standards and proponents of unstructured/risky/active outdoor play.

CONSIDERATIONS



Consider approaches that can break down siloes and the ways injury prevention is stratified and re-conceptualize where childhood fall prevention fits at home, play and school environment.



Consider whether there is interest in preventing all falls or just serious falls. The issue being raised about falls being a regular part of childhood is an important consideration, but how this is addressed is equally important.



Examine how certain aspects of childhood fall prevention can be addressed more holistically and comprehensively, in order to work across jurisdictions.



Examine the issues of data and the media. If the data being examined is too narrow and does not take into account the broader context and implications, then the media can misuse it.



Examine community safety as a whole for newcomers, immigrants and refugee children.



National and provincial approaches to improving the linkage and collaboration of health and public health. Include emergency physicians, pediatricians and primary care providers in the conversation.



Work with the Public Health Agency of Canada to address windows and balconies, building on existing work



THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at
helene.gagne@onf.org

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Let's talk

First Question:

What do you think needs to happen for this work to gain greater visibility and importance?

Let's talk

Second Question:

What opportunities for collective action come to mind? And who should be involved?

Let's talk

Third Question:

What questions about preventing childhood falls do you have?
What can we follow up with?

Let's talk

Fourth Question:

What opportunities are there to share information currently?