

## COMMUNIQUE

### 2-3 MARCH 2004 MEETING

The 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Strategic Injury Prevention Partnership was held in Sydney on 3-4 March 2004. Members attending the meeting were Rod McClure (Co-Chair), James Harrison (AIHW), Bruce Wight (Commonwealth), Richard Franklin (AIPN), Pam Albany (NSW), Michael Tilse (QLD), Ingrid Coote (ACT), Nicola Rabot (Victoria), Stan Bordeaux (TAS), Sandy Brinsdon (NZ). Keith McLea (NZ) and John Wunsch (Consumer Safety Unit, Treasury) attended the first day, and Rebecca Mitchell (NSW) attended for some of the first and all of the second day. Also in attendance were Annamaree Reisch and Samantha Diplock (SIPP Secretariat).

Apologies were received from John Scott (Co-Chair), Ron Somers (SA) and Nicole Bennett (WA).

#### **Updates from jurisdictions**

Members provided updates on their recent work.

#### ACT

- Community Outreach Assessment Pilot (falls prevention program targeting the well elderly) has commenced.
- ACT Water Safety Campaign poster and brochure distributed to all school children and public pools.
- Snowy Hydro SouthCare Rescue Service – Safe & Smart Primary School Resource Kit DVD resource launched to follow up educational visits to primary schools.

#### SA

- Upcoming coroners case regarding a child drowning involving a bath seat.
- Tightening requirements to leash dogs in public places.
- Trauma Register has been invaluable as an outcome measure.
- Severity scoring of diagnosis codes in hospital data.
- Broadening work on CATI modules eg. Coroner Information System.
- ICD 10 – suggestions to be sought from SIPP.

#### NSW

- Injury Prevention Network Meeting – 3 & 4 May 2004 – invitation extended to SIPP members.
- Aboriginal Safety Plan (management tool for identifying risk and managing it).
- NSW Fall Policy to be released at the beginning of April.



### QLD

- Joint Child Injury Project with Emergency Services in Mt Isa and Mackay.
- Falls Network meeting working well, and has contributed to information sharing.

### VIC

- SafeStart injury prevention program (0-8 years) started 18 months ago. Evaluation due June 2004.
- Second round of injury prevention research grants currently being assessed.
- New Strategy to be developed in near future.

### TAS

- Justice Department reviewing product safety legislation.
- North west coast Womens Health Unit has engaged trained fitness instructors to provide exercise for older women.
- Some funds obtained from gambling taxes on poker machines (to be used for community project use) have been directed to injury prevention in children.
- Report on child injury prevention in the home currently being prepared.
- Attempts being made to have injury prevention recognised and links established with 'health lifestyles' (eg. through nutrition and physical education programs).

### NZ

- Injury Prevention Network growing and connecting at government level.
- Exploring ways for injury prevention to link in with nutrition etc.

### AIPN

- Injury Prevention and Safe Communities Conference – 15-17 September 2004 (Mackay).
- Safe Communities workshop to be held immediately before Conference.
- Injury Prevention short course to be held 12 & 13 September 2004.

### AUST GOVT (Department of the Treasury)

- the Parliamentary Secretary to the Treasurer, the Hon Ross Cameron MP, recently launched awareness campaigns for blind & curtain cord strangulation, and Fire Safety at Home.
- Brochures, booklets and web material are currently being developed for a vehicle jack safety campaign. Media activity is expected to occur in April.

### AUST GOVT ( Department of Health and Ageing)

- Report '*Projected costs of fall related injury to older persons due to demographic change in Australia*' published and made publicly available.
- Updated literature review for falls prevention to be available soon on the Department's website.

## **Presentation on New Zealand Injury Prevention Strategy**





Dr Keith McLea (assisted by Sandy Brinsdon) presented on the development and implementation of the New Zealand Injury Prevention Strategy. Copies of the Strategy and accompanying Implementation Plan were distributed. These can be accessed on the New Zealand Injury Prevention Strategy website at [www.nzips.govt.nz](http://www.nzips.govt.nz)

### **SIPP Information for use by Australian Coroners**

Members were advised that the next Coroners Meeting has been scheduled for 20 September 2004 in Darwin. A presentation focussing on linkages between SIPP and Australian Coroners has been prepared for this meeting, and will be delivered by a SIPP member.

### **Standards/ Legislative Clearing House**

Members are consulting with their jurisdictions to explore the feasibility of funding a standards / legislative clearing house project, on a trial basis, for a period of one year. The project would perform three functions:

1. International Standards and Legislative Clearing-house
2. Action Bulletin
3. Australian Child Injury Prevention Legislation and Standards database

### **Presentation on Evaluation of National Injury Prevention Plan**

Representatives from the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland (CARRS-Q) presented an overview of the proposed methodology for evaluating the National Injury Prevention Plan. The methodology involves two components: a critical analysis of extant documents, and a modified Delphi survey. The evaluation is expected to take 22 weeks. Four groups of stakeholders were identified as key participants in the evaluation process: senior policy advisors, practitioners, researchers, and other sectors and broad community members.

### **Demonstration of ED Surveillance Capacity**

David Muscatello provided a presentation on the NSW Biosurveillance Program, which has been funded as part of a 5 year program to enhance health disaster preparedness. This program is in development with trials currently being undertaken in 8 NSW hospitals. The presentation generated discussion regarding the collection of meaningful and timely injury data in hospital emergency departments and the challenges associated with the public health response. This program, if deemed successful will eventually be made available to other states.

### **Next National Injury Prevention Plan**

A summary of the outcomes of the SIPP sub-committee (formed to develop the next National Injury Prevention Plan) meeting on 3 March 2004 was provided. The sub-committee is

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**Secretariat:** Injury Prevention Section  
Department of Health and Aged Care  
MDP 27, GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601  
Phone: 02 6289 8625 Fax: 02 6289 7837  
[www.nphp.gov.au/sipp](http://www.nphp.gov.au/sipp)





currently exploring the possibility of having a new Plan comprised of two parts. It has been suggested that this could involve a 6-10 year injury prevention plan, and a SIPP Implementation / progress report to be published approximately every 2 years. It is expected that a decision regarding the structure of the new plan will be made within the next few months.

### **Child Poisoning Prevention Project**

A sub-committee has been established between the Department of Health and Ageing and the Therapeutic Goods Administration. Ron Somers will represent injury prevention issues on this committee, with a representative from the Department of Health and Ageing to also attend.

### **Falls Managers Meeting**

The Falls Prevention Managers Meeting was held on 1-2 March 2004. A National Falls Prevention for Older People Plan is currently being developed, and is expected to be finalised by June 2004. SIPP members will review the plan and endorse it if appropriate. Following this process, the Plan will be progressed through the National Public Health Partnership (NPHP).

### **ATSIIPAC Update**

A broad structure for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Injury Prevention Advisory Council (ATSIIPAC) safety plan (to be incorporated into the new National Injury Prevention Plan) has been developed, with the plan expected to be finalised by August 2004.

Copies of the publications '*Injury Prevention Activity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Peoples Volume I: Current Status and Future Directions*' and '*Injury Prevention Activity among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Peoples Volume II: Programs, Projects and Actions*' are expected to be available on the Department of Health and Ageing's website in the near future..

### **Pool Fencing**

Changes to the Australian standard for pool fencing are currently under consideration. Option C is likely to be removed, meaning that 4 sided pool fences will be required. SIPP members agreed that this proposal should be supported. A paper is expected to be available for comment in March/April 2004.

A new water safety plan is being developed, and is currently being considered by the Australian Water Safety Council.

### **Future Meetings**

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SIPP has a teleconference scheduled for 25 May 2004.

The next face to face meeting is to be held in Mackay on 14-15 September 2004.

