SEMINAR FOR NEUROTRAUMA AND DISEASES

CIVILIAN GUNSHOT WOUNDS AND NEUROTRAUMA

Date: October 18, 2023    Time: 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. EST
Location: NLSN 1195    Zoom Link: https://bit.ly/44lDllq
Meeting ID: 998 3163 3744    Passcode: CPR

ABSTRACT

Every year, over 100,000 people suffer a firearm-related injury, and over 40,000 of those injuries are fatal. Firearm injury is now the leading cause of death for children and adolescents. Given how common they are, it is incredibly important for health care providers to have an understanding of ballistics and mechanisms of tissue trauma related to gunshot wounds. The nervous system is highly susceptible to any penetrating injury, and often requires specific treatments much different than those for blunt trauma. Outcomes from these injuries are generally poor, but are determined by specific factors related to the injury path. Gunshot wounds to the head are often devastating, but some may be treatable. Injuries to the spine from gunshot wounds can cause spinal cord injury even without direct penetration of the spinal canal. Published guidelines are available to assist with evidence-based management. While there is ongoing research in the management of these injuries, prevention is key.