



**calgary health region**

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## Childhood Trauma and Injury Prevention – Public Awareness Evening

The Alberta Children's Hospital (ACH) is hosting a public awareness event this evening, Tuesday, February 6, 2007, to examine the impact of trauma on children and how injuries can be prevented.

Speakers at tonight's event will include ACH emergency department doctors and special guest Dr. Fred Rivara, Head of Pediatrics at the University of Washington. Dr. Rivara proved the effectiveness of bicycle helmets in preventing head injuries, which led to the implementation of legislation in many jurisdictions.

### **Speakers Program:**

1. The Burden of Trauma – Dr. David Sigalet, Regional Division Chief, Pediatric General Surgery.

In August 2004, 10-year-old Breanna Webster was flown to the Alberta Children's Hospital with multiple external and internal injuries after a serious car crash. Dr. David Sigalet talks with her family about the impact of this experience.

2. Innovations in Trauma Care – Dr. Vincent Grant, Medical Director, Pediatric Trauma.

ARCHIE is real in almost every sense of the word – he breathes, he feels and he can talk. As the hospital's human patient simulator, ARCHIE has died and been resuscitated many times over as trauma teams work on him to practice their skills in pediatric resuscitation. This sophisticated piece of equipment is just one of the innovative tools in use at the Alberta Children's Hospital.

3. Our ultimate goal: Injury prevention – Dr. Fred Rivara, Head of General Pediatrics, University of Washington.

As the founding director of the Harborview Injury Prevention and Research Centre (HIPRC), Dr. Rivara is a pioneer and leader in the field of injury prevention and control. Many organizations use Dr. Rivara's work on the effectiveness of bicycle helmets in preventing head injuries to promote helmet use and to establish helmet safety legislation.

**For more information, on this and other Calgary Health Region news, please refer to our website at [www.calgaryhealthregion.ca](http://www.calgaryhealthregion.ca)**

**Where:** Alberta Children's Hospital  
2888 Shaganappi Trail N.W.  
Auditorium, Kinsmen Learning Centre – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**When:** February 6, 2007  
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**\*\* Media attendance welcome – interview availability is at 8:30 p.m. \*\***

**Facts:**

Injuries are the leading cause of death of people under 45, and the fourth leading cause of death for all ages combined in Canada.

- 900 children and youth die each year from preventable injury
- 40,000 are hospitalized
- unintentional injuries cost Canadians approximately 8.7 billion dollars per year
- \$4.4 billion dollars of that is in injuries to children
- unintentional injuries result in more potential life years lost before age 70 than any other single health problem in Canada

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