



NIHR Signal Simple preventive actions by parents linked to fewer child injuries

Education is promoted as a way to tackle the scale of avoidable injuries to young children. Children have two to five times the risk of an accident leading to injury if a parent leaves them on a raised surface, places hot drinks within reach, or does not put medicines away straight after use.

For example, children are also more than twice as likely to attend hospital for falling on stairs if their parent leaves stair gates open or does not use them.

In this NIHR-funded study, parental behaviours, use of safety equipment and home hazards were compared amongst similar children under five years who either had or hadn't been injured at home and attended hospital.

The scale of the problem led researchers to recommend that all staff give safety advice to parents of children under five years old.

The researchers have produced a NICE-endorsed Injury Prevention Briefing, a commissioning guide, and online content for GPs and parents.



To see more: <https://discover.dc.nihr.ac.uk/portal/article?id=SIG-5000486>