Cyprus five year strategy plan for the Prevention of Unintentional Childhood Injuries: comprehensive program for the playground safety

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Introduction

Successful Program: Safety of Children in Playgrounds

The program derives from the National Strategic Action Plan for the Prevention of Childhood Injuries (2016-2020) – Adopted by the Ministerial Council

The Plan addresses the five main causes of childhood injuries:- Road injuries
- Falls
- Drowning/Suffocation
- Burns
- Poisonings

The program focused on two pillars
- Raising awareness
- Introduction of relevant legislation

Objective

Prevent accidents in playgrounds

Methods

Awareness campaign focus in 3 population groups
- Parents and caregivers
- Pre-primary school children
- Competent bodies

Materials from the Campaign

Results

Improvement of many playgrounds concerning safety

Preparation of a draft law on safety (at the level of parliament) setting standards on safety in playgrounds

Conclusion

The above program demonstrates the importance of tackling childhood injuries in structured and evidence based approach

The program is a forerunner for the reduction of injuries at playgrounds

Moreover we will keep working on the rest of the subjects of this action plan