



NETWORK OF KANSAS, INC.

The SIDS Network of Kansas

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The mission of the SIDS Network of Kansas is to serve those who are or may be touched by the tragedy of SIDS by providing supportive services for all those affected, community awareness, professional development and support for medical research efforts.

Talking Points:

The Data

- According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics preliminary report on infant mortality, in 2010: SIDS is the leading cause of death among babies age one month to one-year of age (253 total infant deaths - 26 related to SIDS or 10.3 percent).
Source: www.cdc.gov/sids, <http://www.sidsks.org/files/FINALSIDSFactSheet.pdf>
- SIDS is most common among infants that are 2-4 months old.
Source: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;116/5/1245.pdf>
- Eighty eight percent of the SIDS cases examined in a National Institute of Health funded study found two or more risk factors present, such as the infant's sleep position, an illness, or exposure to cigarette smoke.
Source: <http://www.nichd.nih.gov/news/releases/020310-SIDS-linked-serotonin.cfm>
- Babies who breathe second-hand smoke are at 2.5 times greater risk for SIDS.
Source: www.cdc.gov/sids, <http://www.sidsks.org/files/FINALSIDSFactSheet.pdf>
- About one in five sudden infant syndrome (SIDS) deaths occur while an infant is being cared for by someone other than a parent. Many of these deaths occur when infants who are used to sleeping on their backs at home are then placed to sleep on their tummies by another caregiver. This is called this "unaccustomed tummy sleeping."
Source: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;116/5/1245.pdf>
- Unaccustomed tummy sleeping increases the risk of SIDS. Babies who are used to sleeping on their backs and placed to sleep on their tummies are 18 times more likely to die from SIDS.
Source: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;116/5/1245.pdf>

- Two thirds of US infants younger than 12 months are in non-parental child care. Infants of employed mothers spend an average of 22 hours each week in child care, and 32 percent of infants are in child care fulltime. Of the infants who are cared for by secondary caregivers, approximately 50 percent are cared for by relatives, 10 percent are cared for by an in-home babysitter, and the remainder are in organized child care. Many of these caregivers do not know about safe sleep.

Source: <http://aappolicy.aappublications.org/cgi/reprint/pediatrics;116/5/1245.pdf>

Next Steps

- The recommendation from the American Academy of Pediatrics is to continue the Back to Sleep Campaign, which recommends that healthy babies be placed on their backs to sleep because it reduces the risk for SIDS. **The AAP also recommends that public education should be intensified for secondary caregivers** (child care providers, grandparents, foster parents, and babysitters.)
- Follow the ABCs of “safe sleep:” **Alone**, on the **Back**, and in a **Crib...Tell Everyone!**
- Safe sleep policy for child care providers should include requiring that healthy babies be placed on their backs to sleep; that childcare providers use safety-approved cribs and firm mattresses; that cribs are free from objects or extra bedding; that only one baby is placed to sleep in a crib; that childcare providers do not use wedges or infant positioners, since there is no evidence they reduce the risk of SIDS; that there is no smoking in rooms where babies sleep because exposure to smoke is linked to an increased risk of SIDS; that babies have supervised “tummy time” when they are awake.
- Kansas child care regulations need to require that all licensed childcare providers, including substitutes and volunteers, have training on safe sleep policies and practices, and that the training is reviewed often.

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