



An Overview National Electronic Injury Surveillance System

Since 1972, the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), a federally-recognized public health authority, has been charged by the Consumer Product Safety Act to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury and death related to more than 15,000 types of consumer products. CPSC works with manufacturers to improve safety standards, issues product bans and recalls, and educates U.S. consumers about product safety and injury prevention.

Data fuel the public health policies and interventions that CPSC develops. The National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) is CPSC's largest and most dynamic data collection and follow-back surveillance system, providing timely data on consumer product-related injuries. NEISS monitors emergency department visits related to injuries involving consumer products and recreational activities for CPSC. Data are also collected for other federal partners on adverse drug events (ADE), work-related injuries, violence, and motor vehicle incidents. Hospitals across the nation contribute to this surveillance system, which is used by CPSC, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), non-governmental researchers, hospitals, manufacturers, and consumers throughout the world.

Institutional Public Service Award Winner:

The American Public Health Association recognized CPSC in 2017 for outstanding contributions to the field of injury prevention.

Hospitals are selected to join NEISS from a statistical sample of more than 5,000 U.S. facilities operating 24/7 emergency departments and at least six inpatient beds. Participating hospitals represent others with similar characteristics. Hospitals are not mandated to participate in NEISS.

Benefits of Participation

NEISS is a timely data source for hospital providers, injury prevention managers, hospital researchers, public information officers, population health managers, and community benefit managers. De-identified NEISS data are available to the public through an online query system, and each April, CPSC publishes a summary report of injury data called NEISS Data Highlights. NEISS data can support needs assessments, safety programs, and community partnerships. Participation in NEISS can support emergency department trauma certification. Participating NEISS hospitals can submit specific data-related questions to CPSC staff. Examples of hospital-requested data include firework-related injuries both before and during the pandemic, motor vehicle collisions while texting, and injuries related to products including mopeds, scooters, golf carts, and cribs. Other data requests from hospitals focus on patient falls, self-injury, and adverse drug events.

How Does NEISS Work?

ED visits due to injury are reportable to NEISS. NEISS coders review each emergency department (ED) record in order to identify visits that meet NEISS case criteria. Coders abstract pertinent information from the ED record, which is entered

Enrollment includes the following steps



1

CHOOSE

One of two NEISS coder options described in the NEISS Coding Options fact sheet.



2

SETUP

Payment by purchase card or by registering with System Award Management (SAM) at sam.gov.



3

SUBMIT

A completed cost worksheet.



4

EXECUTE

A contract or purchase card agreement with CPSC.



5

MEET

The CPSC team during an online meeting.

into a secure, CPSC-issued, laptop. Data are transmitted to CPSC using a secure, encrypted Internet transfer system. All data are reviewed by CPSC staff who notify coders when errors need corrected. Hospitals choose who conducts NEISS chart review and where they conduct their work. Annually, CPSC staff visit each hospital to re-review a portion of ED records to verify the quality of collected data. CPSC covers all costs related to NEISS coding.

Approximately 1% of NEISS cases require further information about the consumer product or injury incident associated with the ED visit. CPSC collaborates with hospitals to conduct follow-back investigations, which are typically phone interviews with patients or their parents, to collect more specific information on the products and recreational activities related to the injury.

How to Join NEISS

CPSC has contracted with Westat – a social science research organization based in Rockville, Maryland – to guide hospitals through the NEISS enrollment process. Your team will work with a dedicated Westat representative who understands the priorities and complexities of hospitals. Westat will meet the informational needs of your team, keep enrollment moving forward, and introduce you to the NEISS team at CPSC. Westat will work with you to complete the steps required by your hospital to partner with CPSC.

Once your hospital is enrolled, CPSC staff will provide training and ongoing support. Your partnership is important for the continued collection of quality NEISS data.

Your NEISS Team

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