Together, we have the power to prevent injury and violence.

YEAR IN REVIEW
Dear Friends of HIPRC,

We hope the new year finds you well as we enter the spring and summer seasons with more daylight and warmer temperatures. The University of Washington’s Harborview Injury Prevention & Research Center (HIPRC) community has grown in the last year and we are excited to share this report.

Your continued commitment to the work we do provides the spirit for us to deliver on our mission to reduce the harm and suffering from injury and violence on all people’s lives and across the lifespan. I am honored to have the privilege of leading this interdisciplinary organization. The HIPRC 2022 Year in Review report was produced with contributions from all HIPRC faculty and staff.

The year 2022 was marked by efforts to ensure a smooth transition from the COVID-19 pandemic to a hybrid model of work, an increased presence across the WWAMI region, the conduct of rigorous science, and the development of new interdisciplinary collaborations in order to achieve our common research, training and public health goals.

Last year, we were intentional in our approach to increase research translation efforts to prevent injury and violence and to address injury and health equity across the lifespan. We increased our research portfolio, added exceptional faculty to our team, and trained aspiring junior faculty and fellows through our pediatric injury T-32 and other educational programs. HIPRC continues to be an outstanding recruitment hub for departments across the UW.

Highlighted efforts include dissemination of our innovative assessment of equity in injury and violence data collection which we shared broadly across the country. We were lauded by the CDC for leading in our Health equity efforts across all injury control centers. We increased our communications footprint and engaged meaningfully with our Community Advisory Board (CAB). HIPRC increased partnerships with Departments of Health across the WWAMI region. Thanks to the Project teams, we completed two of the four ongoing major projects. Led by Drs. Sullivan and Baldwin, we learned more about how opioid prescription practices can be guided with better linkages between our trauma centers and primary care providers. We tested our Return to Learn program across 14 WA state high schools and helped build capacity for children and adolescents with traumatic brain injury returning to schools. Two other projects addressing falls prevention in skilled nursing facilitates and examination of suicide prevention policies are underway.

For the third year, the Rivara endowment granted awards to UW trainees and junior faculty, and the Pinder endowment supported our INSIGHT Program students.

We entered 2023 with continued resolve to be well personally, strengthen existing academic and community partnerships and to support our ecosystem at the UW. I am thankful to UW School of Medicine and Harborview Medical Center for their continued support.

Thank you again for your trust to lead this reflective, vibrant, and cutting-edge organization. We are excited to move our work forward with even greater impact. To make a gift to the HIPRC, please visit our website and click Make a Gift.

Sincerely,

Monica Vavilala
Director, Harborview Injury Prevention & Research Center
Professor of Anesthesiology & Pediatrics, School of Medicine
Adjunct Professor, Health Systems & Population Health, School of Public Health
University of Washington
Under the leadership of founding director and pediatrician, Dr. Frederick P. Rivara, the HIPRC achieved international standing as a premier injury control center. For 36 years, the HIPRC has conducted rigorous research in injury prevention, injury care, and the public health consequences of violence. Our Center is a leader in interdisciplinary, socially diverse, and inclusive training of public health professionals and has trained over 150 injury control researchers, most who work in academic settings.

The HIPRC’s work results in effective policy, drives public health practice, and leads to transformational changes in the way we provide health care to injured patients. The Center collaborates locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally with other leading institutions and organizations dedicated to the same goals.

Founded in 1987 by pediatrician Dr. Abraham Bergman and surgeons Drs. Ronald Maier and Clifford Herman, the HIPRC was one of the four original Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Injury Control Research Centers.
All People Belong in the Circle of Human Concern

To this end, the HIPRC embeds health equity considerations into all of its efforts.

Why?
Together, we have the power to prevent injury and violence.

The HIPRC is committed to creating a respectful workspace together as we seek to identify and correct structural biases that perpetuate inequities in health and well-being. We aim to dismantle biases based on age, disability, religion, ethnicity and race, social class, sexual orientation, indigenous group membership, national origin, gender identity, and linguistic differences. Join us!

HEALTH EQUITY

Our Mission
To reduce impact of injury & violence on all people’s lives.

Our Vision
To achieve health equity across all ages & groups through interdisciplinary research, training, education, & public awareness.

HIPRC colleagues gather in green to support National Injury Prevention Day 2022.
Achievements

Injury-Related Health Equity Across the Lifespan (iHeal)

**iHEAL** is the first initiative of its kind to leverage existing partnerships and build new coalitions to collaborate on the national agenda for health equity. We continue to expand our work toward measurable, large-scale, and sustained impact in reducing injury and violence. iHeal efforts are integral to shaping the HIPRC’s center-wide activities addressing health equity across the lifespan.

Highlight

In collaboration with the HIPRC Research Team Core this past year, iHeal launched a lecture series on equitable methods for injury research, in addition to a Qualitative Methods Series that brings together faculty, trainees, staff, and community members to discuss community-engaged research and best practices.

Together with the HIPRC Research Core, iHeal has also supported investigators and trainees on incorporating health equity into the design, processes, and interpretation of their research projects.

In 2022, our “Coffee and Chat” sessions resumed with the HIPRC students, staff, and faculty to listen to ideas for iHeal direction and engagement. iHeal has worked closely with the HIPRC CAB to develop and disseminate quarterly outreach campaigns and to use strategies to ensure a health equity focus of these campaigns. iHeal hosted a series of trainings on facilitation techniques to increase engagement, contribution, and to build more inclusive meetings. We pledge to continue to improve our science, teaching, and outreach — all through a health equity lens in 2023.
Achievements

Led by Director, Dr. Monica Vavilala and Manager, Ms. Christine Shinakov, the HIPRC Administration ensures sustainability, growth, flexibility, and impact by expanding, strengthening, and diversifying partnerships. Administrative faculty and staff provide oversight and ensure equitable strategic, academic, and fiscal responsibility and accountability; in addition to creating and maintaining infrastructure to support the HIPRC mission and vision and bridge the Center’s functions and activities. The HIPRC Administration is an active and interactive nexus for the Internal, External, and CABs that support the HIPRC.

Highlights

HIPRC Health Assessment Dissemination & ICRC Collaboration

The HIPRC produced (2021) and subsequently disseminated a health assessment report identifying equity gaps in injury and violence data collection in the Pacific Northwest region addressing four topics: opioids, suicide, traumatic brain injury, and falls. The main findings are that missing data on race, ethnicity and at areas of intersection as well as limitations in local data collection methods preclude accurate assessments of injury and violence rates within many Pacific Northwest communities.

Together with participating Injury Control Research Center (ICRC)s, the HIPRC started an initiative to help other centers create their own health assessment. Using the HIPRC model, participating centers will choose a health equity-related research question of local importance, determine what existing data sources are available to address that question and what data gaps exist. ICRCs will come together in 2023 to report and share on the data strengths and gaps, brainstorm solutions, and participate in a workshop with health equity experts and the Core State Injury Prevention Program (SIPP) to map out a strategic plan/proposal for implementing some solutions to fill the equity gaps.

HIPRC Communications Team

Our HIPRC Communications team disseminated over 80 successful injury prevention campaigns across HIPRC channels (and partnered channels) including websites, blogs, e-newsletters, and social media.
Highlights

Resource for WWAMI Region

The HIPRC Administration has led efforts to increase helmet access for communities most affected by both traumatic brain injuries (TBI) and inequitable law enforcement. In partnership with the WA Department of Health Core SIPP, Primary Investigator (PI) Dr. Vavilala has translated research on Return to Learn (RTL) after Concussion (RTL, current research project) and worked with policymakers to include legislation for RTL, including improved data collection to bridge equity gaps in research.

CDC 35th Anniversary Fireside Chat

This year, the HIPRC was able to take part in the CDC’s 35th anniversary of the ICRC program. CDC’s National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) funds ICRCs to study ways to prevent injuries and violence and to work with community partners to put research findings into action. Underlying all other ICRC core functions is the ability to bring together multiple stakeholders from disparate disciplines, perspectives, and agencies to join forces and tackle critical public health problems.

Current and former ICRC Directors took part and discussed their thoughts on the past, present, and future of the program. HIPRC Director, Dr. Monica Vavilala, and Firearms Injury Prevention Research Program (FIPRP) Director, Dr. Fred Rivara, (founding HIPRC director) were panelists on the webinar.
Achievements

**Research** conducted at the HIPRC is dedicated to leading and supporting the best in injury and violence prevention research and to embracing the notion that research and its contributions must be equitable. We join our communities in this endeavor, including the University of Washington, local and regional partners, and colleagues across the country and around the world. Research spans the continuum of injury prevention and response. Our work includes epidemiological research to determine injury causes and risk factors. When injury does occur, we study the spectrum of acute, rehabilitation, and long-term recovery care in the hospital, home, and community. Led by Dr. Kushang Patel, our Research Leadership provides key support in the design, implementation, and analysis of injury prevention studies.

This year, we developed policies and procedures and infrastructure to support our research and effective dissemination of knowledge. In addition, we made key hires to expand our capacity in injury epidemiology. Our eight-member team has significant methodological expertise in both observational and experimental research with diverse experience in the application of multiple datasets and collection systems (electronic health records, surveys, administrative data, focus groups, etc.) to complex analytic questions in the fields of burns, surgery, TBI, firearms injury prevention, active transportation, geriatric injury, and other areas. We are actively engaged in expanding our capacity in both complex quantitative approaches as well as community-engaged and equity-informed research lenses.
Supporting the Oregon Health Authority

The Injury and Violence Prevention Section of the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Public Health Division sought scientific and methodological expertise at HIPRC to partner on improving healthcare for trans and non-binary persons. This resulted in a report describing trans patients’ experiences receiving healthcare. The work was conducted by Dr. Megan Moore and Dr. Vern Harner, who was then a doctoral student at the UW School of Social Work and is now an Assistant Professor at UW Tacoma and Associate Faculty member of HIPRC. Findings show: (1) individual provider actions have significant impacts on trans patients’ experiences; (2) trans patients weigh a variety of implicit and explicit safety cues when deciding what and how to share information with their providers; (3) gender/trans affirming, transition related, and medically competent care are all distinct and subjective and at times trans patients must choose to prioritize one type of care over another; (4) the needs of trans patients are often at odds with the healthcare system status quo. This information is widely disseminated and forms the foundation for ongoing collaborations.
Achievements

The HIPRC Training & Education Core supports skilled, insightful, diverse, and productive learners, researchers, and practitioners who will advance the field of injury and violence prevention to improve access equity and broaden the base of representation among underrepresented.

In collaboration with the HIPRC Research and Outreach Cores, Dr. Charles Mock leads the Center’s Training & Education Core, which oversees the development of researchers who are responsive to community needs and priorities.

Highlights

INSIGHT Programs

INSIGHT Programs for undergraduate and high school students are supported by HIPRC faculty and staff, dedicated to providing state of the art training and education in injury and violence prevention. In 2022, our INSIGHT undergraduate program recruited over 425 applicants, with 18 interns accepted; and our INSIGHT high school program included 35 students from across the nation.

2022 | INSIGHT HIGH SCHOOL

• Applicants from eight U.S. states and Canada
• 35 participants from four U.S. states
• 13 scholarships
• Community Partners:
  PEMCO, foundry10: education research,
  Department of African American Male Achievement, Seattle Schools, Regional Community Safety & Well Being, Rainier Scholars, and Zero Youth Detention

2022 | INSIGHT UNDERGRADUATE

• 428 applicants from over 100 schools
• 22% applicants Underrepresented Minority (URM)
• 22% applicants first generation college students
• Applicants from 46 U.S. states
• 18 accepted trainees
• Geographic diversity:
  10 U.S. states, 14 institutions

HIPRC Trainee Miguel Castro with Anesthesiology & Pain Management (UW Medicine) Department Chair, Dr. G. Burkhard Mackensen, at a conference poster session.
Inaugural INSIGHT REACH Launch

The 2022 INSIGHT Program for undergraduate students also offered a NEW free virtual extension program, INSIGHT REACH. Over 70 students from across the globe signed up for the inaugural virtual program!

Our INSIGHT REACH students were introduced to a variety of injury and violence prevention topics and received eight-week exclusive video access to injury prevention education modules and lectures. The curriculum was offered by leading injury and violence prevention experts. Students that completed the INSIGHT REACH program received a Certificate in Injury and Violence Prevention.

T-32 Program

The Department of Pediatrics at the UW School of Medicine and the HIPRC Training & Education Core, is proud to have the only National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) funded Pediatric Injury T-32 Program, which provides funding to train pediatric injury and violence prevention researchers.

2022 Rivara Endowment Injury Research Grant Award Recipient

The HIPRC awarded UW Medicine School of Nursing PhD candidate, Wonkyung Jung, MSN, RN the 2022 Rivara Endowment Injury Research Grant for her project titled, “The role of social integration in cognitive functioning after traumatic brain injury in older adults.”

The HIPRC Rivara Endowment Injury Research Grant program provides resources to graduate students and postdoctoral trainee investigators looking to conduct an injury-related project.

(Left to Right) 2022 INSIGHT Program High School Lead, Dr. Jimmy Phuong; Training & Education Program Specialist, Amy Muma; and High School Teaching Assistants, Mira Nickels & Kavon Arbabi.

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2022 POST-DOKTORAL SCHOLARS

There are currently five T-32 Post-Doctoral Scholars at the HIPRC:

- **Lauren Agoubi, MD, MA** - Social Determinants of Health in Traumatic Injury, Surgical Care Access
- **Anna Bender, PhD, MSW** - Pediatric Injury & Violence exposure, IPV
- **Chelsea Hicks, PhD, MPH** - Violence, Social Vulnerability & Disasters
- **Keith Hullenaar, PhD** - Criminology & Health
- **Paul Neuville, MD** - Genito-urinary Reconstruction

There are also 38 (other) Post-Doctoral Scholars.
Achievements

The HIPRC Outreach Core is led by Dr. Laura-Mae Baldwin and Dr. Rebecca J. Walter with focus on innovative and effective communication, equity, and impact in injury and violence prevention. In partnership with the Community Advisory Board, the HIPRC Outreach Core respectfully collaborates with community partners and is responsive to their priorities.

The HIPRC Outreach Core also collaborates with investigators in the HIPRC Research and Training & Education Cores to support the translation of research to practice. Together, they collaborate with community and policy partners to conduct and disseminate research that aims to prevent injuries and violence. Using best practices from health education, behavioral science, social marketing, and communication, the HIPRC Outreach Core supports research that is responsive to community injury and violence prevention priorities. The Center and our partners work together to impact public policy and create effective programs.

Highlights

Summer Learning Experiences with Local High Schools

We have partnered with several educational programs in King County to address injury and violence prevention. The HIPRC hosted the Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) clubs from Rainier Beach and Franklin High Schools in June 2022 at the Yesler Terrace Community Center. A variety of panelists working in injury and violence prevention were invited to attend and speak about their career paths and their various roles at Harborview Medical Center and within their communities. Additionally, the HIPRC Outreach Core organized the ACE Academy Summer Learning Experience focused on injury and violence prevention. We recruited faculty members to share prevention strategies on topics such as drowning, gun violence, mental health, and interpersonal violence (IPV), and collaborated with Seattle Children’s Hospital to give away life jackets and bike helmets to ACE Academy students and their families at an end-of-summer celebration.
Highlights

Shining a Light on Youth Drowning Prevention
For National Injury Prevention Day, the HIPRC collaborated with Seattle Children’s Hospital, Public Health – Seattle & King County, and SPLASH Forward, the HIPRC Outreach Core co-hosted a free virtual Student Lifeguard Workshop for youth in South Seattle and South King County.

The workshop introduced teens to lifeguarding and successfully helped to develop a lifeguard pipeline in response to Seattle’s lifeguard shortage. Over 60 participants attended the workshop; 25 of these attendees will receive scholarships that cover costs of lifeguard certification.

Collaboration with Safer Communities Montana
The HIPRC Outreach Core supported our Center’s Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program (FIPRP) by providing technical assistance to Safer Communities Montana (SCM) to develop a Firearm Safe Storage Map modeled after Washington State’s.

SCM is a coalition of public health and community partners that advocates for suicide prevention in Montana’s Lewis and Clark, Broadwater, and Jefferson Counties by providing tools and training to pharmacies, firearm-related businesses, health providers, and community members.

WE Stop the Bleed
The HIPRC Outreach Core adapted the successful WE Stop the Bleed (WE STB) program piloted with Seattle’s Somali community and will now work with the Latino community through Casa Latina, a Seattle organization that advances the power and well-being of Latino immigrants through employment, education, and community organizing.

WE STB seeks to increase first aid skills and self-efficacy among community members and to build trust between community members and first responders. The Casa Latina WE STB event trained 16 staff and community members alongside Seattle first responders.

The HIPRC Outreach Core will continue to collaborate with Casa Latina to offer additional WE STB trainings. WE STB classes will also be offered to Seattle high schools in 2023.
Achievements

The HIPRC Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program (FIPRP) Core was established in 2019 with WA state funding and broad legislative support. FIPRP is only one of three such efforts in the country, with a mandate “to support investigations of firearm death and injury risk factors, evaluate the effectiveness of state firearm laws and policies, assess the consequences of firearm violence, and develop strategies to reduce the toll of firearm violence to citizens of the state.”

Under the leadership of Director, Dr. Frederick P. Rivara and Co-Director, Dr. Laura C. Prater the mission of FIPRP is to reduce firearm injury and death through interdisciplinary research and collaboration with institutional, community, and governmental partners—building on a strong, successful HIPRC history of investigation and collaboration in this arena.

Highlights

Older Adults & Firearm Safety

Dr. Laura C. Prater collaborated with colleagues at the University of Colorado to conduct a qualitative study with health care providers who care for older adults, published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society in 12/2022.

Clinicians felt that having firearm safety conversations early and often in primary care is important but also generally felt unprepared by the lack of resources available. Nearly half of older adults own a firearm or reside in a home with one. Most older adults have not considered planning for the future of these firearms.

FIPRP developed firearm safety planning tools and educational resources including a Dementia & Firearm Safety Guide tailored to older adults and care partners to help facilitate these conversations with health care clinicians.
Highlights

Understanding the Use of Extreme Risk Protection Orders (ERPOs) by Civilian Petitioners

Dr. Laura C. Prater led a team of FIPRP investigators to understand the barriers and facilitators to civilians filing ERPOs with the courts. Barriers to filing included: (1) a perceived lack of help connecting with social services to address potential harmful behavior that led to consideration of ERPO; (2) confusion regarding the filing and court process; and (3) the distress of the whole experience to the petitioner. Factors which facilitated filing included: (1) having prior legal experience; (2) having assistance from advocates who help shepherd petitioners through the process; and (3) any potential simplification of the ERPO filing. This study, published in Psychiatric Services in 11/2022, is very important since only about 15% of ERPOs locally and nationally are filed by individuals other than the police.

Racial & Gender Bias Around Handguns

Dr. Alice Ellyson led a study to measure implicit and explicit racial bias of women and handguns addressing race- and gender-based variabilities in perceptions and stereotypes about gun competence and victimization.

In the U.S., large and persistent racial disparities continue in firearm related deaths, with much higher rates in black men and women than in white men and women. Improving the public health approach to firearm-related harm requires clarity about how the public views the intersection of race, gender, and gun possession. FIPRP developed a new Race-Women-Handguns Implicit Association Test and surveyed 1,000 adults nationally. This showed an anti-black bias against black women and handguns and a low rate of perception that black or white women would be competent with handguns.

U.S. adults inaccurately assess safety risks facing black women especially, intimate partner violence, and sexual violence. The study published 9/2022 in the Journal of Interpersonal Violence provided additional clarity about implicitly racist public perceptions at the intersection of race gender and gun possession.
Our HIPRC Safe & Active Transportation (SAT) section collaborates with partners to reduce traffic and transportation injury risk, encourage safe travel, and improve safety for active transportation modes (walking, biking and public transport).

Monitoring Impact of Bike Helmet-law Repeal | In March 2022, in response to concerns regarding inequitable enforcement, the King County Board of Health repealed a longstanding law requiring adult bicyclists in King County to wear helmets while riding. The HIPRC SAT section had concerns that the repeal may increase head injuries among cyclists.

In a Seattle Times editorial, senior HIPRC core faculty members, Dr. Ebel, Dr. Jaffe, and Dr. Rivara asked the King County Board of Health to reconsider the repeal while emphasizing public health and injury prevention strategies to eliminate inequities in injury risk, enforcement, and opportunities to engage in safe and active transportation.

Our HIPRC Injury Care researchers are located in the WWAMI region’s only Level 1 trauma center, Harborview Medical Center (HMC). Their work increases positive outcomes for HMC patients and influences trauma treatment in emergency departments across the U.S.

Human Nociceptor & Spinal Cord Molecular Signature Center | A new NIH-funded study aims to create a scientific foundation that will empower pain researchers around the world to approach the problem of treating pain in a new way, deeply rooted in a fundamental understanding of the first neurons and first synapses in the human pain pathway. The five-year study will be led by a team of researchers at the University of Washington (Dr. Michele Curatolo) and the University of Texas, Dallas and Houston (Dr. Theodore J. Price and Dr. Patrick M. Dougherty).

Our HIPRC Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) section’s mission is to generate and disseminate new knowledge pertaining to TBI prevention and treatment. Our work studies the relationship between TBI treatment guidelines and outcomes for children that will transform the way clinicians treat pediatric TBI around the globe.

NINDS CDE iTBI Steering Committee | Our Director, Dr. Monica Vavilala, was appointed to the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS) Common Data Elements (CDEs) International Traumatic Brain Injury Steering Committee (iTBI SC) for the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) project. Through this project, and by continuing to develop data standards for clinical research, the NINDS TBI CDEs will increase the efficiency and effectiveness of clinical research studies and clinical treatment, increase data quality, facilitate data sharing, and help educate new clinical investigators.
Our HIPRC Violence Prevention Section (VPS) works closely with the Firearm Injury & Policy Research Program (FIPRP). Projects in VPS focus on the prevention of child maltreatment, sexual violence, youth violence, intimate partner violence, and suicide.

Preventing the School to Prison Pipeline
The HIPRC worked with King County schools to understand how to reform policing practices with the goal of preventing the school to prison pipeline. This proposed pilot project addressed disparities by designing a pilot school-based learning lab—a research-based process that brought local and diverse stakeholders together to solve racial and ethnic disparities in school discipline and policing. This work is supported by the UW Population Health Initiative (UW PHI) and lays the groundwork for transforming school policing practices through community collaboration.

Preparing for a Burn Disaster in Brazil
A new study published in the Journal of the International Society for Burn Injuries evaluated current access to burn care services for Brazilian people. HIPRC Core Faculty member, Dr. Barclay Stewart worked with burn care experts and disaster stakeholders based at the Universidade Federal de São Paulo in Brazil to model burn care services in the event of a disaster.

Dr. Fred P. Rivara interviewed by KIRO-TV on electric scooter safety in Seattle.
We appreciate your interest in making a gift to the HIPRC. Your donation supports our mission to reduce the impact of injury and violence on people’s lives in the U.S. and globally. Donations can be made to the HIPRC through the University of Washington website at together.uw.edu.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We are deeply grateful to our colleagues and partners for their support. Together, we are dedicated to reducing injury and violence in people’s lives.
STAY CONNECTED

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