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| Topics: SIDS |
| Type: **Thematic Panel** |
| **Cooperation between the Dutch Foundation for the Prevention of Cot Death, the National Cot Death Working Group and the Parent Foundation** |
| **L'Hoir, Monique**1; **van Sleuwen, Bregje** 1; **Engelberts, Adele**2; **Witlox, Maarten**3; **Ploegmakers, Dirk**3 *1 - TNO. 2 - Orbis Medical Center. 3 - -.* |
| **Objectives of the session** In the Netherlands, Professor de Jonge, in cooperation with Dr. Adele Engelberts, started the nationwide prevention of sudden infant death by informing the Dutch health care and the public about the risks of prone sleeping, duvets, smoking etc. Shortly after their findings were published internationally, a Cot Death Foundation was set up which aimed to continuously inform the public health workers, medical doctors and nurses about the scientific developments concerning cot death. Next to information about the afore mentioned surveys, the international and national ‘break troughs’ in the field of Sudden Infant Death were described on a website. The webmaster was  a journalist and father of a cot death child. He also developed the website Safe Sleeping, through which the public was informed about trends and preventive and risk increasing factors.  **Content of the session** This outstanding source of information was briefed by the National Cot Death Working Group, mainly existing of pediatricians who make home visits to parents of infants who died suddenly and unexpectedly.  This Nationwide Working Group (LWW) is a sub working group of the Dutch Pediatric Association, meets twice a year and reviews the cot death cases they had been informed about by pediatricians from all over the Netherlands. The same classification system as used in England and Wales is applied. The LWW’s board exists of both active and retired  pediatricians. The Working Group conducts home visits and reviews all cases twice a year. The LWW’s working method  represents a cost-effective combination of patient care and research, and results in a continuous flow of evidence based information communicated in articles and oral presentations.  **Method and extent of audience participation** The Dutch approach could be an example for countries who start with cot death prevention:   * a frequent monitor on baby care habits conducted within the domain of public health; * a Cot Death Foundation with one or two trustful websites and an outstanding webmaster that knows the content of the cot death prevention; * a National Working Group existing of pediatricians (and invited other disciplines) which reviews the sudden death cases; * an excellent communicator who is able to present the news in an understandable and simple way for the lay-press; * the success rate of this approach is promising, especially if these organizations work closely together and have regular contact with the parent group.   The way the cooperation between the National Cot Death Working Group, the Foundation for the Prevention of Cot Death and the Parent Group co-operate in the Netherlands will be presented.  **Proposed content area and why it is important to participants** Prevention of cot death and the importance op cooperation between parents and professionals. |
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