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| **ISA ISPID  Abstract Submission  Nº: 232**   |  | | --- | | Topics: **SIDS/SUID** | | Type: **Thematic Panel** | | **Infant Home Mortality in  the Río de la Plata Region** | | **Boulay, Marie**1; **Grad, Estela**2; **Giachetto, Gustavo**3; **Santoro, Anabella**4 *1 - Ministerio de Salud Pública, Montevideo, Uruguay. 2 - Ministerio de Salud de la Provincia de Buenos Aires, Argentina. 3 - Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de la República, Montevideo, Uruguay . 4 - Area de Salud de .* | | **Objectives of the session** The aim of this Thematic Panel is to exchange experiences and strategies that were successfully implemented to reduce Home Infant Death (HID) in the Río de la Plata area of Uruguay and Argentina  **Content of the session** The successful investigation of these deaths requires expertise and experienced investigators to cover three general aspects that are related: 1. A forensic autopsy by a pediatric pathologist, if available, Otherwise by a general pathologist;  2. Investigation of the death scene and reconstruction of circumstances where discovered. Given the infant is almost always picked up on discovery and resuscitation is attempted by a traumatized care giver or emergency responders, trained investigators are required; 3. Interview with the caregiver by a medically trained team member (e.g., a nurse) to cover recent illnesses of the infant and family members, latest feeding and sleep patterns, and other indices of occult disease. At the present time, such an HID requires an autopsy in Uruguay, but in Argentina the cause of a non-suspicious HID can be assigned without an autopsy. It is necessary a national law that considered mandatory a pediatric autopsy in every HID, as it happens in Uruguay but not in Argentina. .   There are several strategies now in place in different countries  by their Public Health authorities that can be introduced, with modification for local South American infant care customs, to reduce the incidence of HID.  In Uruguay the Infant Health Program of the Public Health Ministry has taken the problem of HID as a priority. A Program of Nurse Home Visiting was recently implemented for the follow up of infants of 'high risk' situations at a vulnerable period of their development. It is essential to evaluate the impact of this Program so that it can be improved if necessary, and its benefits can be presented to other countries for them to consider adopting it for their infants.  Also, the Program "Uruguay Crece Contigo”, run by the Social Development Ministry, made an inter-sectorial working group with the aim of constructing  an integral program focused on protecting the first-born infants, by emphasizing the promotion of good parenting practices to the inexperienced new parents, and stressing the importance of optimizing safe sleep practice (e.g., supine) in the newborn and post-neonatal infant environments. The Argentine Province of Buenos Aires, where 40% of the Argentine population lives, reported  in 2014 a rate of infant mortality of 10.41/1000 live born, of which 35.4 % occur in the postneonatal period.  The HID was reported in 25 % of the global infant mortality and 33% occur in the postneonatal period. In 2009 in Buenos Aires the register of HID was improved and by consensus, a  model of home nurse visiting was begun. After that, interviews were done by previously trained teams in municipalities of the metropolitan area of Buenos Aires, and the locations of these zones where these results were evaluated was known. Thus, it was possible to arrive at the profile of these HID among the infant deaths. That allowed the authorities to plan concrete actions, such as intervention at rooming-in maternity hospitals by instructing the new mothers in preventive actions, spreading the word by communication media, and also training the health team and health promoters in their education tasks.  **Method and extent of audience participation** HID constitutes a health problem that is often underestimated, with multi-factorial causes found at inquest. The numbers of these deaths, both in Argentina and Uruguay, are a major concern because they constitute a large fraction of the total  postneonatal mortality  **Proposed content area and why it is important to participants**  Contents:  Home Infant mortality: scenario and challenges,  Program of Home Visiting in Sudden Unexpected Infant Death in Montevideo, Home infant mortality: a social point of view.. Home infant mortality in the Province of Buenos Aires –Argentina | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | **CONTACT** | | | Name: | **Estela** | | Lastname: | **Grad** | | E-mail: | **estelagrad@gmail.com** | | Country: | **Argentina** | | Institution | **Ministerio de Salud Pública de al Provincia de Buenos aires, Argentina** | | Cellphone: |  | | City: | **Buenos Aires** | |