

NTDB® data points

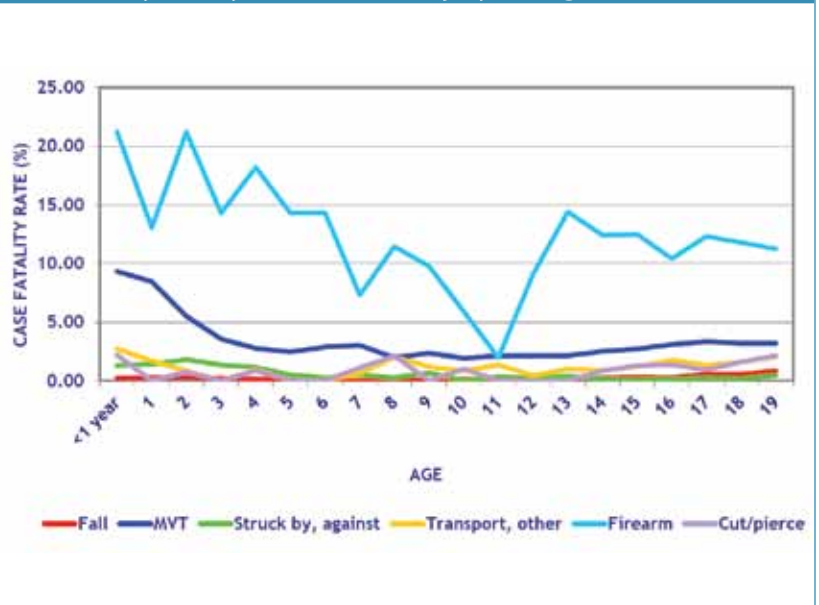
## *Annual Pediatric Report 2011:* **Fatal at any age**

by Richard J. Fantus, MD, FACS; and Michael L. Nance, MD, FACS

The 2011 *Annual Report of the National Trauma Data Bank®* (NTDB) is an updated analysis of the largest aggregation of U.S. and Canadian trauma registry data that has ever been assembled. In total, the NTDB now contains more than 5 million records. The 2011 *Annual Report* is based on 722,824 records, submitted by 697 facilities, from the single admission year of 2010. The 2011 *Annual Pediatric Report* is based on 146,953 2010 admission year records. The NTDB classifies pediatric patients in this report as patients that are less than 20 years of age.

The mission of the American College of Surgeons (ACS) Committee on Trauma (COT) is to develop and implement meaningful programs for trauma care. In keeping with this mission, the NTDB is committed to being the principal national repository for trauma center registry data. The purpose of this report is to inform the medical community, the public, and decision makers about a wide variety of issues that characterize the current state of care for injured pediatric patients in our country. It has implications in many areas including epidemiology, injury control, research, education, acute care, and resource allocation. The following statistics are an example of the kind of

Case fatality rate by mechanism of injury and age



information that is available in this report.

When looking at the number of incidents by mechanism of injury, falls, motor vehicle-related, and those that classify as struck by/against account for more than two-thirds of the records and 40 percent of all deaths. In contrast, firearm-related injuries comprise a much smaller number—less than 5 percent of all records—but are related to close to 30 percent of all reported deaths. Taking this finding one step further and

examining the case fatality rate by mechanism of injury and age, one can see that firearms are fatal at any age. The firearms case fatality rate dwarfs the case fatality rate for other mechanisms of injury (see figure, this page).

Many dedicated individuals on the ACS COT, including the Pediatric Surgery Subspecialty group, along with dedicated individuals caring for pediatric patients at trauma centers around the country, have contributed to the early development of the

---

NTDB and its rapid growth in recent years. Building on these achievements, the goals in the coming years include improving data quality, updating analytic methods, and enabling more useful inter-hospital comparisons. These efforts will be reflected in future NTDB reports for participating hospitals, as well as in the pediatric annual reports.

Throughout the year, we will be highlighting these data through brief reports that will

be found monthly in the *Bulletin*. The *NTDB Pediatric Annual Report 2011* is available on the ACS website as a PDF file and a PowerPoint presentation at <http://www.ntdb.org>. In addition, information is available on our website about how to obtain NTDB data for more detailed study. If you are interested in submitting your trauma center's data, contact Melanie L. Neal, Manager, NTDB, at [mneal@fac.org](mailto:mneal@fac.org).

---

*Dr. Fantus is director, trauma services, and chief, section of surgical critical care, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center, and clinical professor of surgery, University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago. He is Past-Chair of the ad hoc Trauma Registry Advisory Committee of the Committee on Trauma.*

---

*Dr. Nance is Templeton Professor of Surgery and director, pediatric trauma program, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, PA.*