



## PAN CHESHIRE CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL—NEWSLETTER

***Within this newsletter we will raise awareness amongst frontline professionals, parents/carers and families about some of the risks to children that we have identified through our CDOP work. Can you cascade this information as widely as possible to colleagues, friends and contacts.***

### ***Another successful learning event ran by the Pan Cheshire Child Death Overview Panel***

The learning event was an opportunity for front line professionals to learn about the work of the CDOP, representatives from NWS, Police, A&E/Hospital, Childrens Social Care , Education and CDOP gave a presentation on the rapid response process when notified of an unexpected child death.

#### **Some of the Feedback from attendees:-**

“The importance of completing Form A & B in a timely & detailed manner”

“Sign posting, advising staff who require support, guidance to all staff of process and completion of the Form's A B ”

“Awareness can be fed back to the rest of the team re Child death process”

“I learnt about the role of the CDOP panel, it was very interesting”



#### **ALDER HEY BEREAVEMENT CENTRE**

Alder Hey Bereavement Centre ran a workshop in the afternoon outlining the range of support available for families and how to ensure the health & wellbeing of professionals following the death of a child

#### **Some of the Feedback from attendees:-**

“ Grief never dies” important to remember when working within the front door”

“ To look at introducing positive supervision”

“ Importance of self care”

“ The powerful message around the grief process and how parents experience this loss (I have had a recent sudden infant death on my caseload)

“Importance of self reflection/consider impact on team & implementation of coping strategies, debriefing support”



Stalls were set up by Child Bereavement UK and Harry & Co they offered advice and information regarding local bereavement service throughout the day

# CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY—KEEPING BABY SAFE

Christmas is a time for visiting friends and families, it is very easy to agree to sharing beds with babies or sleeping on settees thinking it is safe for just one night. If you are travelling with a baby over the holidays? Never compromise **ALWAYS** plan ahead for safe infant sleep.

## **Remember the important Steps to safe sleep**

1. Plan ahead and take a portable crib with you when traveling.
2. Use a firm mattress with a fitted sheet.
3. Keep baby's sleep space clutter free – no pillows, blankets or toys Place your baby on their back to sleep, feet to foot of crib/cot and head uncovered.
4. Never fall asleep with baby after drinking alcohol, taking drugs or iff you smoke Always ensure a smoke free environment

## **WARNING—THE DANGERS OF BUTTON BATTERIES**

The Healthcare Investigation Branch is currently investigating the dangers of children swallowing button batteries following the death of a child from an unknown and undetected ingestion of a button battery. The parents reported symptoms of abdominal pain, vomiting and a raised temperature. There were seven contacts in nine days with different healthcare services in the community and hospital, but the battery remained undetected. The child sadly died.

### **Please be aware of the dangers:-**

Parents should make every effort to prevent children having access to the batteries.

Ensure that products with button batteries are not given to children if the battery compartment isn't secure with a screw

Always buy toys from reputable retailers.

Keep spare batteries out of the reach and sight of Children.

Teach older children not to give batteries to their younger brother and sisters.

If you suspect your child has swallowed a button battery, act fast.

**Go straight to the A&E department at your local hospital or dial 999 for an ambulance.**

Tell the doctor you think your child has swallowed a button battery.  
Do not let your child eat or drink  
Do not make them sick.  
Do not wait to see if any symptoms develop

### **What adults see**



### **What children see**



**Newsletter is provided by the CDOP Panel.**

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