



Spotlight On Justice

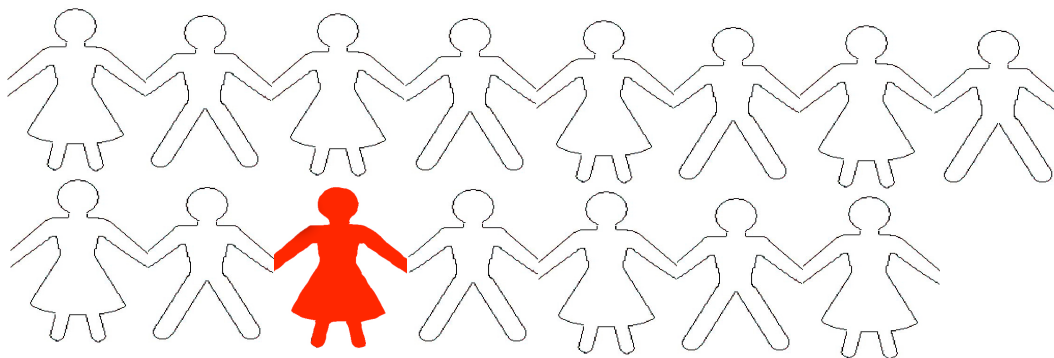


DRUG ERRORS HURT 1 IN 15 CHILDREN IN HOSPITALS

The Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics reports:

“Medicine mix-ups, accidental overdoses and bad drug reactions harm roughly one out of 15 hospitalized children... That number is far higher than earlier estimates and bolsters concerns already heightened by well publicized cases like the accidental drug overdose of actor Dennis Quaid's newborn twins last November....

“These data and the Dennis Quaid episode are telling us that ... these kinds of errors and experiencing harm as a result of your health care is much more common than people believe. It's very concerning,' said Dr. Charles Homer of the National Initiative for Children's Healthcare Quality.”



Source:

Glenn S. Takata, Wilbert Mason, Carol Taketomo, Tina Logsdon and Paul J. Sharek, "Development, Testing, and Findings of a Pediatric-Focused Trigger Tool to Identify Medication-Related Harm in US Children's Hospitals," *Pediatrics* 2008;121:e927-e935, <http://www.pediatrics.org/cgi/content/full/121/4/e927>; Lindsay Tanner, "Medicine Mix-Ups Harm Hospitalized Kids," *Associated Press*, April 7, 2008.

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