

Industry-Relevant Research for
Camp Professionals from ACA



Healthy Camp Study

Get Involved Today
to Make Your Camp
a Safer Place for Kids
to Learn and Play!

Did you know that data collected during the summer of 2006 in year one* of the Healthy Camp Study found that . . . ?

- Both campers and staff were more likely to become ill at camp than to become injured.
- Communicable diseases accounted for 32 percent of day camp illnesses among campers (33 percent of illnesses among day camp staff) and 40 percent of resident camp illness among campers (51 percent for staff).
- Head injuries explained 41 percent of the injuries to day campers and 21 percent of injuries to resident campers.
- In day camps, for events in which wearing protective equipment was applicable, it was not being worn in 56 percent of reported situations.
- In resident camps, failure to wear protective equipment was reported in 29 percent of incidents.

Thanks to the generosity of Markel Insurance Company and the skills and systems of The Ohio State University College of Medicine (OSU) and Columbus Children's Research Institute (CCRI), the American Camp Association (ACA) and other partners,** camps are currently preparing for year two of the Healthy Camp Study. The purpose of this five-year study is to monitor illness and injury among campers and staff at U.S. summer camps so that preventive interventions can be identified and integrated into camp risk management programs.

Appreciation is expressed to Markel Insurance Company for their generous support of this project.



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There is still time to join the Healthy Camp Study! ANY day or resident camp program may participate in the study regardless of organizational affiliation (both ACA and non-ACA camps). All camps in the study will receive an annual summary of their own camp data as well as a copy of the national data report for their type of camp (day or resident). ALL information provided to Children's' Research Institute (CCRI) is confidential and is aggregated with data from other camps for summary report purposes. No sponsoring organization ever sees data from individual programs.

Participation in this study involves a few minutes of staff time per day or approximately twenty minutes per week. An Internet connection during the summer is preferred for reporting purposes, but a limited number of camps who must phone in data on a weekly basis will be accepted into the study group. Camps are asked to commit for the four remaining years in the study, from the summer of 2007 through the end of the summer of 2010.

Learn more about the Healthy Camp Study and sign up at:

www.ACAcamps.org/research/healthycamp.php

Or, go directly to the OSU Children's Research Center site at:

<http://HealthyCampEnrollment.ccri.ws>.

Questions about the study can be directed to Dr. Barry A. Garst or Sheila Dannemiller at:

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* Complete results of year-one data are posted on the ACA Web site at:

www.ACAcamps.org/research

** Association of Camp Nurses, Christian Camp and Conference Association, and National Recreation and Park Association.

