Trauma Demographics

Falls

- Most common cause of all non-fatal injuries
- 2007 - 8 million non-fatal falls
  - 750,000 admissions
  - Falls from height (ladders, etc.) more common in working age
  - Falls from standing and down stairs more common in aged
    - More likely lethal, 0.94% in aged compared to 0.08% ages 35-44
    - Widespread use of anticoagulants increases severity of injury
- 2007 - Falls caused 23,000 deaths
Motor Vehicle Collisions

• 2008 - Leading cause of death due to injury
  • 6 Million MVCs
    • 2 Million injuries
  • 38,000 deaths (100 per day)
  • Leading cause of death ages 5 – 34
  • Motorcycles/bicycles lack protection of autos/trucks
    • Helmets definitely help prevent brain injury
  • Pedestrian struck often affects children, elderly, intoxicated
Trauma Demographics

Penetrating Trauma

- 2007 – guns are the 2nd leading injury-related cause of death
  - 30,000 firearm deaths
    - 17,000 suicides
    - 13,000 homicides
  - 54,000 non-fatal firearm injuries
    - 36% mortality rate
    - Ages 10-24 most affected
- Stab wounds
  - 2,600 deaths
  - 175,000 non-fatal injuries
  - 1.5% mortality rate
- Blast injuries
  - Pressure waves, flying objects, flying victims
Trauma Demographics

Summary

• Falls are the leading cause of non-fatal injury
  • 23,000 deaths

• Motor vehicle trauma is the leading cause of fatal injuries
  • 38,000 deaths

• Penetrating trauma – guns are the 2nd leading cause of fatal injuries
  • 30,000 deaths