

INJURY AND VIOLENCE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND PREVENTION



Injuries and violence account for about 5 million deaths worldwide each year, or about 9% of the global mortality burden. In the U.S., injuries and violence claim roughly 200,000 deaths with estimated costs of 1.4 trillion dollars, annually.

Injuries and violence are the leading cause of death for persons ages 1-44, and lead to more years of potential life lost than cancer and cardiovascular diseases combined. Some of today's leading mechanisms of injury and violence include opioid overdose, motor vehicle crashes, falls, homicide, suicide, and natural and human-induced disasters. The School of Public Health is leading efforts to characterize the burden of and risk factors for death and non-fatal injuries, and to identify evidence-based interventions and policies to prevent injuries and violence.

CURRICULUM & PROGRAM FORMAT

MPH DEGREE (42-46 credits)

The MPH program prepares practitioners in principles and skills in public health, with a unique concentration in injury and violence epidemiology and prevention. The program is ideal for those interested in practicing public health in the community, government, non-profit organizations, hospitals/clinics and industry.

MS DEGREE (46 credits)

The MS program provides training in public health scientific methods with special application to injury and violence prevention and focusing on epidemiologic approaches. The program is ideal for those interested in pursuing careers in research or academic institutions.

PHD DEGREE (~60 credits plus dissertation credits)

The PhD program involves a rigorous course of study that emphasizes mastery in advanced academic and research training. The program provides a comprehensive understanding of environmental and occupational health, and includes coursework in epidemiology, injury/occupational epidemiology, biostatistics, and advanced research and design.

ADVANTAGES OF THE PROGRAM

Mission focused. With rigorous training and support, students are well-prepared to address unintentional and intentional injury — a major cause of mortality and morbidity.

Interdisciplinary and multifaceted. The comprehensive curriculum spans many key public health approaches, providing a solid foundation in critical evaluation, systems thinking, research methods, prevention and policy.

Active research. Both students and faculty are actively involved in conducting research and presenting findings at major local, national, and international professional meetings and in peer-reviewed publications.

Support. A robust advisory board—comprised of local and national experts—enhances the program through research contributions, mentorship, career connections, and ongoing course review and evaluation.

High ranking. A degree from a top-10 School of Public Health provides distinction in competitive career environments.

CAREERS

Graduates of this program are positioned for high-level careers in a variety of settings including academic, corporate, industrial, health agencies, and health care facilities. Current demand for rigorously trained occupational and injury prevention professionals is very high. Within a year of graduation, 100% of students have been placed in jobs.

POSITIONS HELD BY GRADUATES

University of Minnesota, University of Wisconsin, Portland VA Medical Center, Chang Jung University, Taiwan
Assistant/Associate Professor

Minnesota Department of Human Services

Injury/Illness Data Analyst
Research Analysis Specialist at the Senior Office of Rural Health and Primary Care

Texas Department of State Health Services

Manager, Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Branch

California Department of Public Health

Section Chief of Research and Evaluation

Nike Technology Laboratory

Research/Safety Engineering Manager

Dow Corning Corporation

Head Epidemiologist in Public Affairs/Food & Drug Administration
(see more at: mcohs.umn.edu/oiprt-careers)

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Statement of Purpose and Objectives
- Resume or CV
- Official transcripts

Additional requirements for PhD and international applicants can be found at: sph.umn.edu.

FUNDING

Specialized PhD training in Occupational Injury Prevention is available for U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Qualified students can receive traineeships that provide full or partial funding to cover tuition, fees, health benefits, and stipend through the Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety. Other sources of funding for students in all degree programs include research assistantships, teaching assistantships, internships, fellowships, and scholarships. More details on funding opportunities can be found at: mcohs.umn.edu/oiprt-funding.

RESEARCH CENTERS

The U of MN School of Public Health is home to nationally and internationally recognized centers that enhance public health education through high-caliber research, outreach, and training.

Affiliated Research Centers

- Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety Education and Research Center
- Regional Injury Prevention Research Center
- Center for Violence Prevention and Control
- Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center



STUDENT RESEARCH

Graduate students are directly engaged in critical research in the realm of injury epidemiology and control. Examples of past and current research include:

- agricultural trauma
- low-back injury
- repetitive motion trauma
- health practices and injuries in the workplace
- work-related amputations
- transportation-related injuries
- work-related violence
- bullying prevention
- disaster preparedness and response

Integral to these research efforts is a basic understanding of dynamic interactions among the agents/energies (mechanical, chemical, thermal, electrical, radiation, etc.) and the hosts/human populations within the environment.