Is there a gun in the home?

- 1. Is the gun locked, unloaded, with the ammunition stored separately?
- If not, counsel on importance of keeping the gun locked and unloaded, with ammo stored apart
- Determine reason why, and see if can be stored in safer locations away from home
- Review firearm safety, and goal of no guns in the home
- 2. Does the child know where gun is located? [ask child]
- Review danger of accidental firearm injury
- Strategize with family about safer gun storage
- 3. Is there anyone with access to a gun that is mentally ill?
- Review dangers and refer to appropriate resources
- Strategize with family methods to limit that access

Have you seen gun violence in your community?

- 1. How often? Is it avoidable? Are you scared?
- Brainstorm with family about ways to avoid gun violence
- Assess for anxiety or PTSD
- Refer to resources or social work, if necessary

For Adolescents

- 1. Do you or your friends carry or have access to a gun?
- If so, determine the reason and if concerned for safety
- Review adolescent specific dangers and refer to resources, if necessary
- Screen for depression or other mental health concerns (including substance abuse)
 - -If actively suicidal or homicidal, admit to hospital for safety



U.S. Gun Violence Facts

- A child is killed or injured by a firearm every 30 minutes
- A gun is 22 times more likely to be used for suicide, homicide, criminal assault, or accidental injury than it is to be used for self defense
- One in five injury deaths of children under 20 years old are firearm related
- Having a gun in the home increases the risk of suicide among adolescents
- 85-90 percent of injuries and deaths from firearms occur in those 15-19 years of age

District of Columbia Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics

Resources

Local

DC Department of Behavioral Health Access Line 888-793-4357
Health Leads 202-800-2710
Children's Law Center 202-467-4900
DC Chapter of the American www.aapdc.org
Academy of Pediatrics

State

Maryland Public Mental Health System 800-888-1965 Virginia Department of Behavioral Health 804-786-3921 Virginia Crisis Link 703-527-4077

Federal

National Domestic Violence Hotline 800-799-7233
National Suicide & Crisis Hotline 800-884-2433
AAP Dept. of Federal Affairs www.aap.org/federaladvocacy.org
Brady Campaign www.bradycampaign.org
Coalition to Stop Gun Violence www.csqv.org

