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

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 Academy of Pediatrics www.aapdc.org

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.csgv.org