

*Sleep-Related Infant Deaths:
Lessons from
the Ohio Child Fatality Review*

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Definitions

Sleep-related death: Death of
infant while sleeping

Characteristics of or elements in the sleep
environment appear to play a role in the
sudden, unexpected death.

SIDS

Asphyxia

Undetermined causes

Definitions

SUID: Sudden, unexplained or unexpected infant death.

SIDS

Asphyxia

Previously undiagnosed medical condition

Homicide

Child abuse

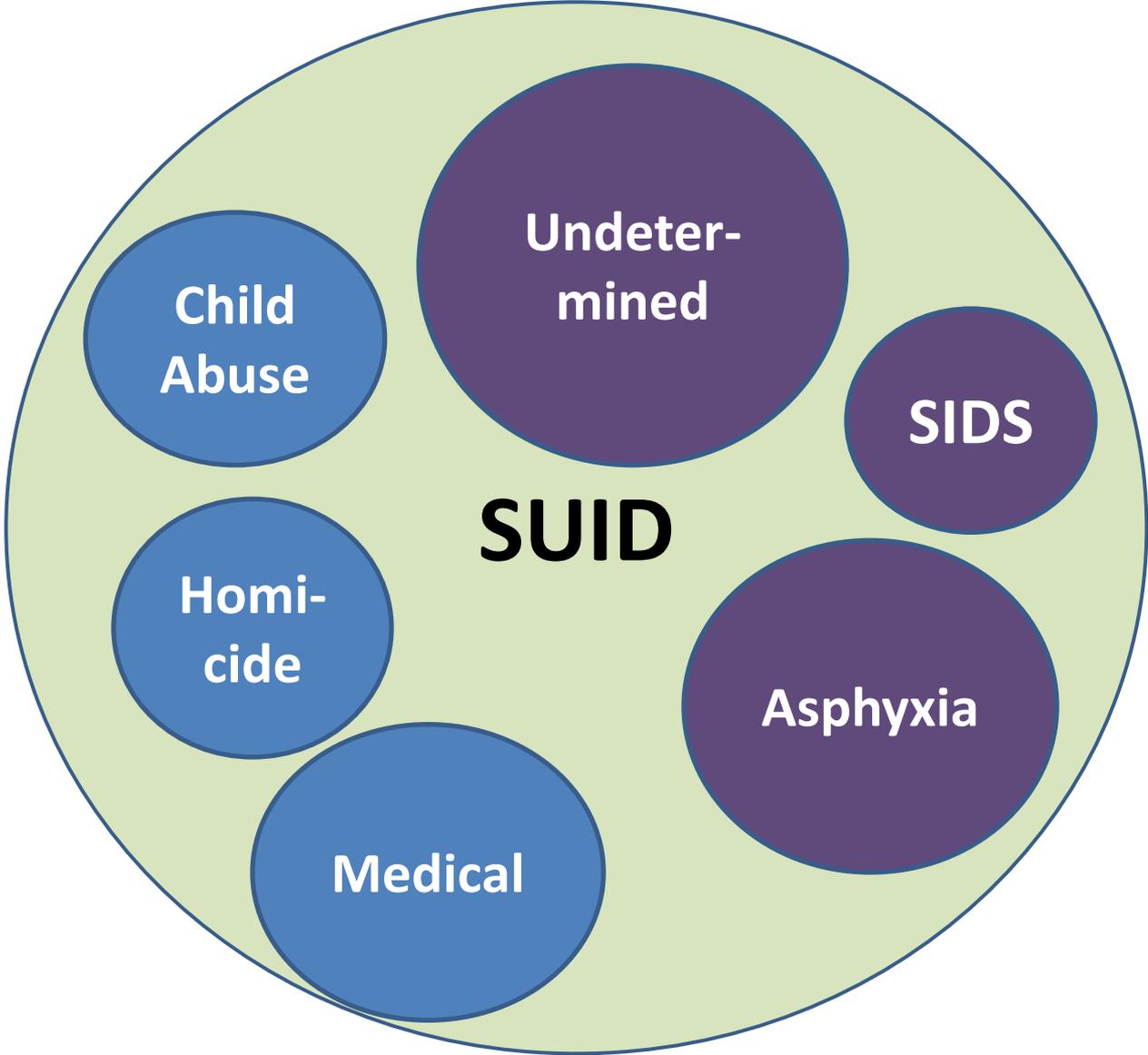
Undetermined

Definitions

SIDS: A medical cause of death.

Sudden death of infant less than 1 year that remains unexplained after investigation, including autopsy, death scene examination, and review of health history.

Willinger, M, James LS, Catz C. Defining the sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS): Deliberations of an expert panel, convened by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. *Pediatric Pathology*, 1991.





*Sleep-related Deaths
in Ohio*

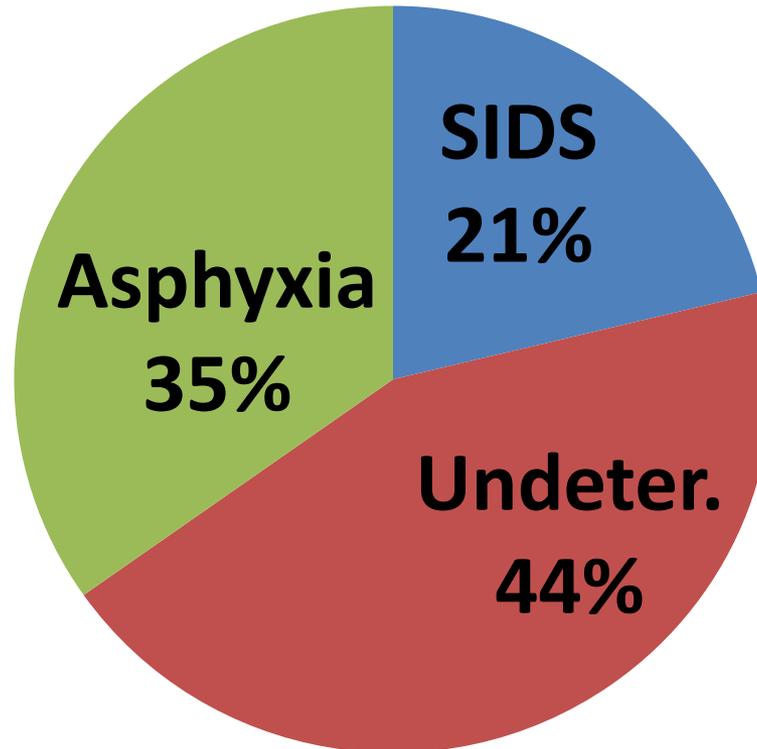
2007-2011:

819 sleep-related infant
deaths

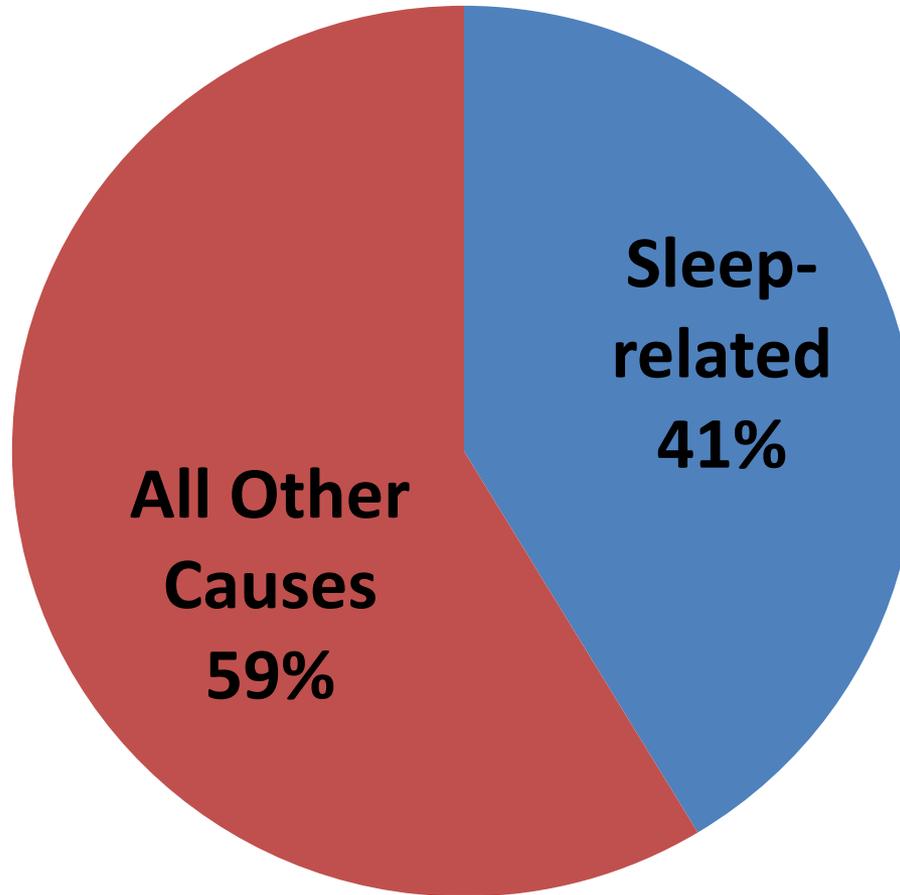


Sleep-related Infant Deaths

Sleep-related Deaths by Cause of Death



Post-Neonatal Deaths



Sleep-related Deaths Demographics

- 56% were boys.
- 38% were African American.
- 88% were to infants younger than 6 months.

The logo consists of the letters 'CFR' in a white, serif font, centered within a teal square with a thin black border.

Sleep Environments

- Only 23% (192) occurred in a crib or bassinette.
- 60% (494) occurred in particularly unsafe places: adult beds, sofas, chairs.
- 58% (473) were sharing a sleep surface with another person.

Smoking and Sleep-related Deaths

43% (349) of the reviews of the sleep-related deaths indicated the infant was exposed to smoking before or after birth.

CFR

ABCs of Safe Sleep

- Of 819 sleep-related deaths, only 51 (6%) of reviews indicated the baby was placed
 - Alone
 - On the Back
 - In a Crib or Bassinet
- Only 33 reviews indicated ABC with no smoke exposure.

Impact on Infant Mortality

- 15% of all infant deaths reviewed are sleep-related.
- More than any other single cause of death except prematurity.
- 41% of all post-neonatal deaths reviewed are sleep-related.

More than three
Ohio infant deaths
each week are
sleep related.

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Ohio Child Fatality Review

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cfrrept.aspx](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/odhPrograms/cfhs/cfr/cfrrept.aspx)