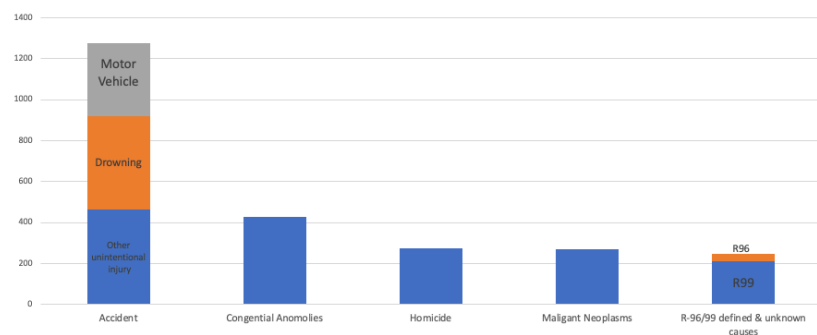


★ Childhood Death Statistics

Leading Causes of Death

Ages 1-4: US 2023



Data Source: CDC, National Vital Statistics System

10 Leading Causes of Death

US, 2023, Both Sexes, All Ages, All Races

	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	All Ages
1	Congenital Anomalies 4,009	Unintentional Injury 1,275	Unintentional Injury 654	Unintentional Injury 514	Unintentional Injury 14,326	Unintentional Injury 20,763	Unintentional Injury 24,159	Malignant Neoplasms 32,887	Malignant Neoplasms 101,714	Heart Disease 554,413	Heart Disease 680,981
2	Short Gestation 2,922	Congenital Anomalies 426	Malignant Neoplasms 387	Suicide 481	Suicide 5,934	Suicide 8,433	Heart Disease 11,528	Unintentional Injury 30,558	Heart Disease 78,726	Malignant Neoplasms 461,345	Malignant Neoplasms 613,352
3	SIDS 1,445	Homicide 275	Congenital Anomalies 210	Malignant Neoplasms 463	Homicide 5,745	Homicide 5,828	Malignant Neoplasms 11,281	Heart Disease 30,430	Unintentional Injury 33,710	Cerebrovascular 146,873	Unintentional Injury 222,898
4	Unintentional Injury 1,291	Malignant Neoplasms 269	Homicide 187	Homicide 238	Malignant Neoplasms 1,463	Malignant Neoplasms 3,903	Suicide 5,933	Liver Disease 8,866	Diabetes Mellitus 15,958	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 125,693	Cerebrovascular 192,939
5	Highways Comp. 1,141	Influenza & Pneumonia 142	Heart Disease 77	Congenital Anomalies 192	Heart Disease 835	Heart Disease 3,474	Liver Disease 5,913	Suicide 7,653	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 15,748	Alzheimer's Disease 12,548	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 145,317
6	Bacterial Sepsis 621	Heart Disease 131	Influenza & Pneumonia 87	Heart Disease 96	Congenital Anomalies 443	Liver Disease 1,626	Homicide 4,487	Diabetes Mellitus 6,493	Liver Disease 14,784	Unintentional Injury 72,854	Alzheimer's Disease 114,034
7	Placenta Cord Membranes 569	Septicemia 68	Septicemia 52	Cerebrovascular 66	Diabetes Mellitus 259	Diabetes Mellitus 1,170	Diabetes Mellitus 2,604	Cerebrovascular 5,384	Cerebrovascular 13,425	Diabetes Mellitus 48,950	Diabetes Mellitus 95,190
8	Respiratory Diseases 449	Perinatal Period 54	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 45	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 58	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 29	Cerebrovascular 979	Cerebrovascular 2,057	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 2,441	Suicide 7,816	Nephritis 45,200	Nephritis 55,353
9	Infectious Hypoxia 365	Cerebrovascular 93	Cerebrovascular 37	Influenza & Pneumonia 48	Cerebrovascular 193	Complicated Pregnancy 522	Septicemia 987	Homicide 2,671	Nephritis 6,196	Covid-19 44,097	Liver Disease 52,222
10	Circulatory System Disease 356	Covid-19 44	Covid-19 26	Diabetes Mellitus 35	Influenza & Pneumonia 197	Influenza & Pneumonia 459	Influenza & Pneumonia 967	Nephritis 2,442	Septicemia 6,665	Parkinson's Disease 38,238	Covid-19 45,922

Data Source: CDC, National Vital Statistics System

Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Webinar Training Series

• **Five-hour, on-demand training** offered at **NO** cost for all professionals involved in the investigation, certification, or care of families after the sudden death of a child.

• **Addresses** the specific roles of pathologists, medical examiners/coroners, death investigators, first responders, law enforcement, emergency department professionals as well as the roles of the pediatrician and primary care physicians in the follow-up care of families.

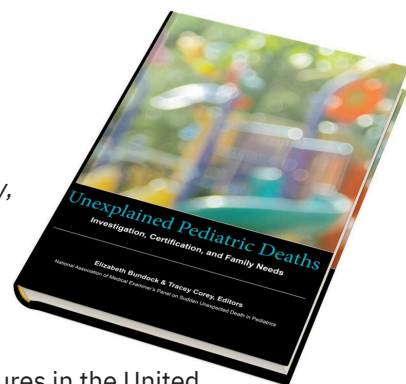
• **Utilizes** didactic learning and video simulations based on published consensus guidelines.

NO COST



Unexplained Pediatric Deaths: Investigation, Certification and Family Needs

Elizabeth Bundock and Tracey Corey, Editors



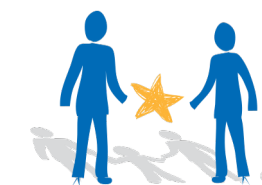
• **Reviews** medicolegal investigation of sudden, unexpected pediatric deaths, focusing on systems and procedures in the United States and those deaths which remain incompletely understood or entirely unexplained.

• **Discusses** the evolution of our understanding and practice in the area of sudden, unexpected pediatric death investigation, covering the changing philosophies and medical theories as to causation and changing investigative and certification strategies.

• **Provides** procedural guidance for investigation, autopsy, and ancillary testing; certification and reporting; and key considerations for prevention and research, and working with family members and other professional team members.

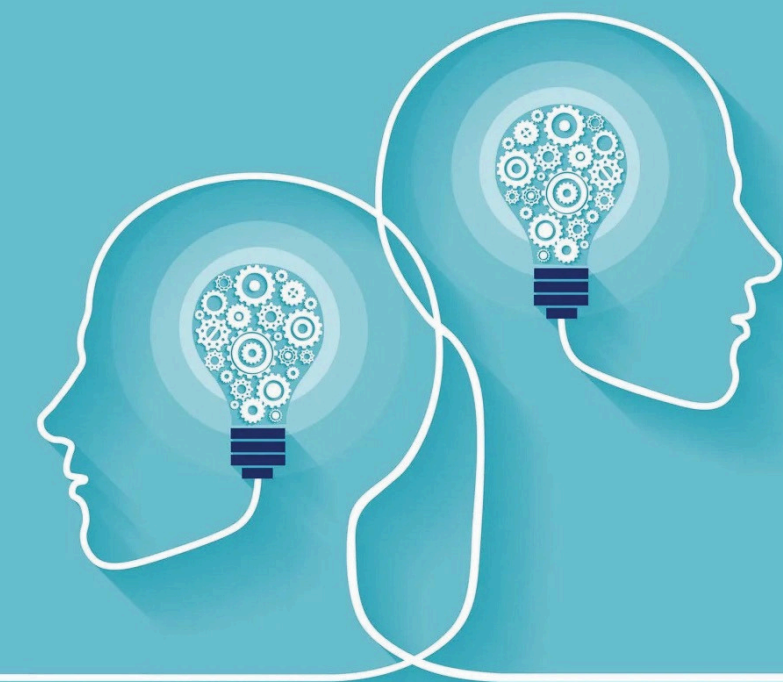


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SUDDEN UNEXPLAINED DEATH IN CHILDHOOD FOUNDATION

★ How We Help Support Professionals



The SUDC Foundation is the only organization whose purpose is to raise awareness, fund research, and serve those affected by sudden unexplained death in childhood (SUDC). The SUDC foundation provides all services at **NO COST** to the people it serves.

info@sudc.org ★ **800.620.SUDC** ★ sudc.org

★ What Is SUDC?

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood

Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood (SUDC)

is a category of death for a child 12 months of age or older that remains unexplained after a thorough case investigation, including the performance of a complete autopsy, examination of the death scene, and clinical history review. Most often, a seemingly healthy child goes to sleep and never wakes up. At this time, we do not know what causes SUDC, how to predict it, or how to prevent it. A medical examiner or coroner could rule a child's death SUDC when they complete a thorough evaluation and find no other cause of death.

According to the CDC, approximately 500 children in the U.S. were affected by sudden unexplained death in 2023, occurring in:

- ★ **247** children ages of 1-4 years
- ★ **37** children ages of 10-14 years
- ★ **44** children ages of 5-9 years
- ★ **152** teens ages of 15-19 years

Overall, 61% were male. The majority of deaths (52%) were among 1-4 year olds



Refer a Family to the SUDC Foundation
All services are **FREE** and confidential.

★ How We Help Support Professionals

The SUDC Foundation knows that a sudden death of a child profoundly affects the professionals involved. We offer the following **FREE** resources:

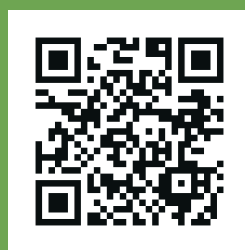
Communication Support: We can serve as a liaison between your office and the family, helping the family understand the extensive death investigation process. We can also work together with your office in providing additional guidance in navigating the care of the family following the sudden death of their child. Our goal is to support the family throughout their grieving journey.

Library of Resources: We offer a collection of scientific video presentations, current SUDC research publications, and other valuable resources for medical death investigator professionals.

- **SUDC Information:** Our website, www.sudc.org, offers accurate and current information on sudden unexplained child deaths, new research publications and findings, insights on autopsy considerations, recommendations for scene investigation, ancillary testing, and guidance for classification.
- **Help for Families Brochure:** This **FREE** and customizable brochure explains the death investigation process, the professionals involved, and bereavement services accessible both locally and nationally.
- **Postmortem Genetic Testing:** Please reach out to us if you are interested in learning more about our PMGT program or you have a SUDC case.
- **Research Opportunities:** We connect professionals and families with research opportunities which can often provide access to additional testing, such as genetic analysis, and neuropathology/MRI to further understand such tragedies.
- **We Advocate:** Through legislation and policy, we advocate to ensure that professionals have the resources to provide comprehensive and standardized investigations.



Access Our
Library of Resources



Request a **FREE**
Help for Families Brochure

★ How We Help Grieving Families

The SUDC Foundation provides the following resources at **NO** charge.

- **Personalized trauma informed support** by our social worker during a family's most difficult time.
- **Online support groups** designed to focus on the specific needs of family members and connect with diverse communities.
- **Peer Connections Friends Support Program** that provides trained individuals with lived experience to connect and provide support to bereaved families.
- **FREE resources to help all those impacted by SUDC throughout their lifespan.**
- **Family testing considerations** for surviving relatives of SUDC that parents can utilize, along with their child's autopsy report and knowledge of their family history, for a helpful discussion with their physician to evaluate their family's specific needs.
- **Referrals to SUDC research** opportunities.
- **Advocacy** as needed, on a case-by-case basis, including assistance with the death investigation process and also opportunities for postmortem genetic testing.

Postmortem Genetic Testing for SUDC Cases:

Postmortem genetic testing can play an essential role in identifying the cause of death in cases where sudden and unexpected loss occurs. It can also help determine if blood relatives are at risk for genetic diseases or sudden death.



The SUDC Foundation recognizes that postmortem genetic testing is a vital and important part of a child's sudden death investigation.

By securing a genetic specimen (DNA) ideally through a blood sample collected in a purple top EDTA tube, this testing can provide key insights:

- **Uncover the Cause of Death:** Allow the opportunity for genetic testing to uncover specific causes(s) of death.
- **Provide Peace of Mind:** Help alleviate anxiety and provide possible closure for the family with a negative genetic test result.
- **Informed Decision-Making:** Provide appropriate medical management for at-risk family member(s).
- **Support Ongoing Research:** Option to take part in present or future research.

The SUDC Foundation is dedicated to supporting medical examiners and coroners who are actively investigating SUDC cases by removing barriers to accessing postmortem genetic testing, ensuring both professionals and affected families have the support and resources needed for a thorough and comprehensive investigation.

For more information or if you have an active potential SUDC case, please visit: www.sudc.org/post-mortem-genetic-testing