



OFFICIAL STATEMENT OF THE SOCIETY OF CRITICAL CARE MEDICINE

Firearm Injury Prevention

Firearm injury is an epidemic and a public health emergency. In February of 2020, the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma (ACS-COT) held the Medical Summit on Firearm Injury Prevention in Chicago, Illinois, USA. Utilizing a public health approach to craft a common dialogue enabled key interventions to be articulated. These included supporting firearm and lethal means safety, safe firearm storage, counseling, understanding social determinants of health, developing health policy, and research funding—all in an effort to prevent firearm-related violent injury, disability, and death. The Society of Critical Care Medicine (SCCM) was represented at this historic summit. SCCM categorically supports each and every key priority identified by ACS-COT and embraced by the organizations allied in this effort.

SCCM's mission statement is to secure the highest-quality care for all critically ill and injured patients. While SCCM strongly supports the goal of preventing firearm-related violent injury, these injuries still occur. SCCM's members stand ready to pursue the highest-quality care for these patients during their critical injury and into recovery. Highly effective tools to support health recovery—such as ICU Liberation—improve outcomes. Efforts focused on reducing and preventing post-intensive care syndrome support health recovery outside the intensive care unit (ICU) as well. These initiatives are underpinned by programs supporting patient- and family-centered care and shared decision-making in the ICU. SCCM remains deeply invested in improving outcomes and restoring health across the continuum of care in conjunction with allies such as ACS-COT.