What Experts Are Saying about The U.S. Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence

American Academy of Pediatrics

By raising awareness of this public health crisis, the Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence speaks to the gun violence that emergency physicians observe all too often, as well as the repercussions on the communities they serve.

Ben Hoffman, MD, FAAP
President, American Academy of Pediatrics

American College of Emergency Physicians

“The American College of Physicians has long advocated for a public health approach and common-sense measures to help curb this escalating crisis. We continue to address firearm injury through public policy and advocacy efforts, publication of related research and through events that examine the impact on clinicians and the public, and collaboration with others to enact change. We commend the Office of the Surgeon General for raising awareness of this growing epidemic.”

Darilyn V. Moyer, MD, MACP
Executive Vice President and CEO, American College of Physicians; and
Isaac O. Opole, MBChB, MACP
President, American College of Physicians

American Academy of Pediatrics

“Pediatricians have long understood that gun violence is a public health threat to children, and that its impact on families and communities can be devastating and long-lasting. The American Academy of Pediatrics welcomes the Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence, which shines a light on why we must all come together to address this public health crisis.”

Ben Hoffman, MD, FAAP
President, American Academy of Pediatrics
American College of Surgeons
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“Firearm violence has been a public health crisis in the United States for many years now, and we are pleased to see that the Surgeon General is addressing it in this Advisory, laying out the stark statistics highlighting the scope of the problem as well as identifying some actionable solutions. The American College of Surgeons has been working on this issue for decades and we stand ready to work with all stakeholders to end this epidemic of violence.”

Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS, ACS
Executive Director & CEO, American College of Surgeons

American Medical Association
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“Across the country, physicians everywhere treat patients and families afflicted by firearm violence. We see the physical and emotional harm firsthand, and we dread the too-often conversations with parents, spouses, and even children in which we tell them their loved one did not make it. Firearm violence is indeed a public health crisis, and the data now show it touches the majority of U.S. adults. We applaud the Office of the Surgeon General for issuing this Advisory and for outlining an evidence-based public health approach to addressing firearm violence.”

Bruce A. Scott, MD
President, American Medical Association

American Psychiatric Association
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“The members of the American Psychiatric Association have become all too familiar with suicides and homicides involving gun violence and the additional impacts on people’s mental and physical health. The Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence elevates this crisis in our national attention and emphasizes the damage gun violence has caused to families across the United States. It affirms that people with mental illness are especially vulnerable and includes prevention strategies that could help save lives.”

Marketa Wills, M.D., M.B.A.
CEO and Medical Director, American Psychiatric Association

American Psychological Association
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“APA applauds the Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence, which serves as an urgent call for action. Addressing gun violence is a pressing public health issue that requires solutions grounded in research, data and the voice of communities. Now we must use this information to advance science-based public policy that saves lives and prevents injury.”

Arthur C. Evans Jr., PhD
CEO, American Psychological Association
“Gun violence is a national tragedy. It’s a serious public health problem that is highly preventable. The Surgeon General’s Advisory on Firearm Violence is important because it both raises awareness and offers evidence-based solutions to mitigate the risks of injury and death from gun violence.”

Georges C. Benjamin, MD
Executive Director, American Public Health Association

“The Surgeon General's Advisory reminds us that it is our responsibility to keep children safe in homes and communities across the nation. We must come together to prevent gun violence. Our kids are counting on us.”

Matthew Cook
CEO, Children’s Hospital Association

“Our nation’s hospitals and health systems continue to meet the challenges posed by this public health crisis. The Surgeon General’s Advisory reaffirms the heartbreak that America’s caregivers have been seeing firsthand for many years, especially among young people.”

Michael Dowling
President and CEO, Northwell Health

Initiated the Creation of the CEO Council on Gun Violence Prevention & Safety

“As one of the largest providers of safety and support services for survivors of intimate partner violence, YWCA knows firsthand the dangers that firearms pose for women, children and families. We are grateful for the Surgeon General’s attention to this critical issue.”

Margaret Mitchell
CEO, YWCA USA