

Occupational Therapy Leadership in Designing and Implementing Injury Prevention Programs in Level I Trauma Centers



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INTRODUCTION

In the US, traumatic injuries are a major public health problem across the lifespan and a leading cause of death in individuals 1 to 44 years of age. More than 2.8 million people are hospitalized and 31.7 million people treated in emergency rooms as a result of violence and injuries each year.

The American College of Surgeons, the organization responsible for verifying Trauma Centers across the country, mandates that Trauma Centers be actively involved with injury prevention efforts.

Occupational therapists working with injured patients have always provided these individuals with information and practical tools to make healthy choices to prevent injuries from reoccurring.

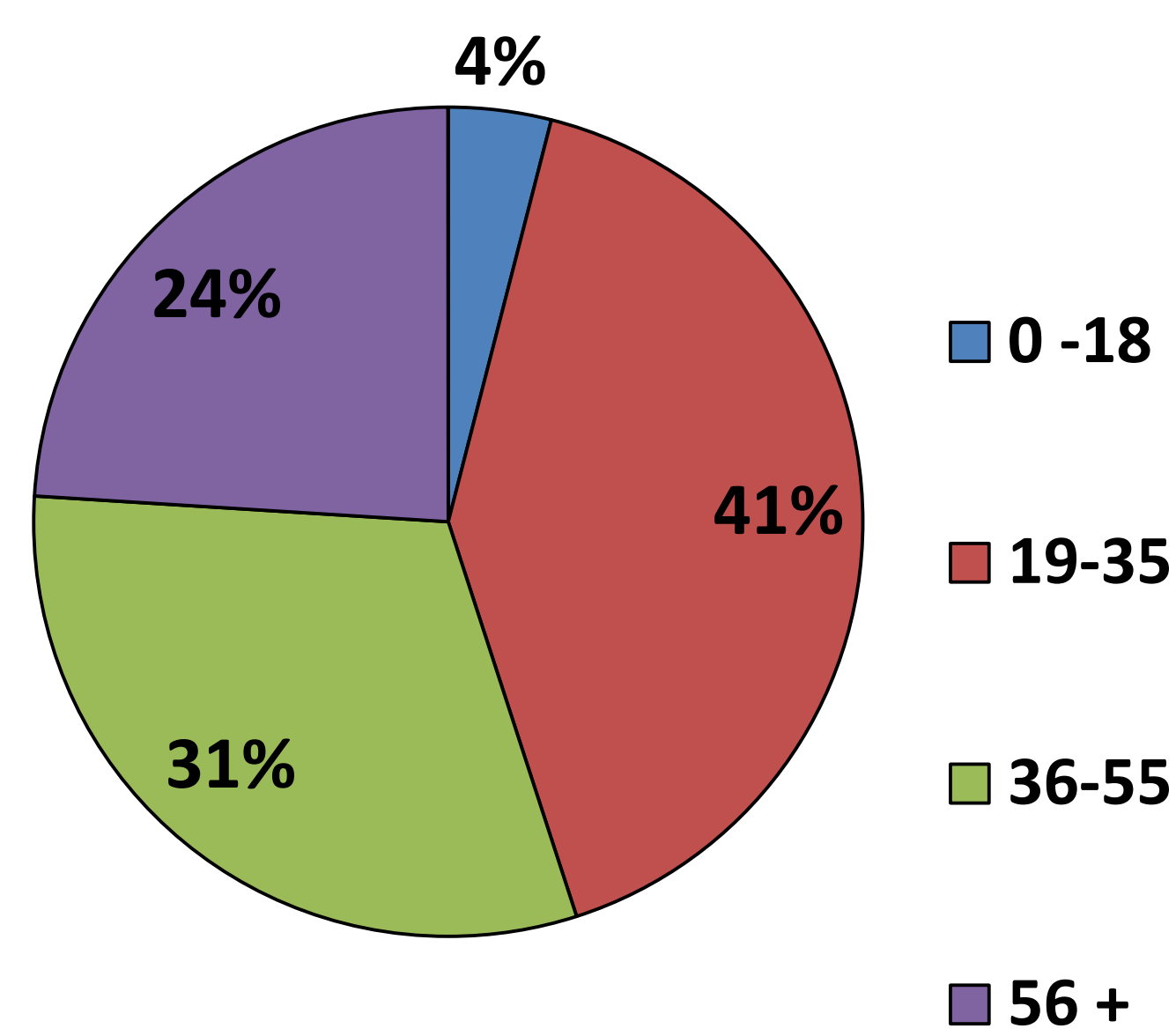
Occupational therapists working in Trauma Centers now need to take it to the next level by assuming leadership roles in injury prevention programming. This leadership includes using concepts of occupational therapy to design, implement and evaluate broad scope prevention initiatives. It also requires occupational therapists to increase their involvement and presence in advocacy and health policy related to trauma injury prevention. Increased involvement in leadership activities of this sort will also support the profession to move forward consistent with the AOTA Centennial Vision.

KEY POINTS IN INJURY PREVENTION

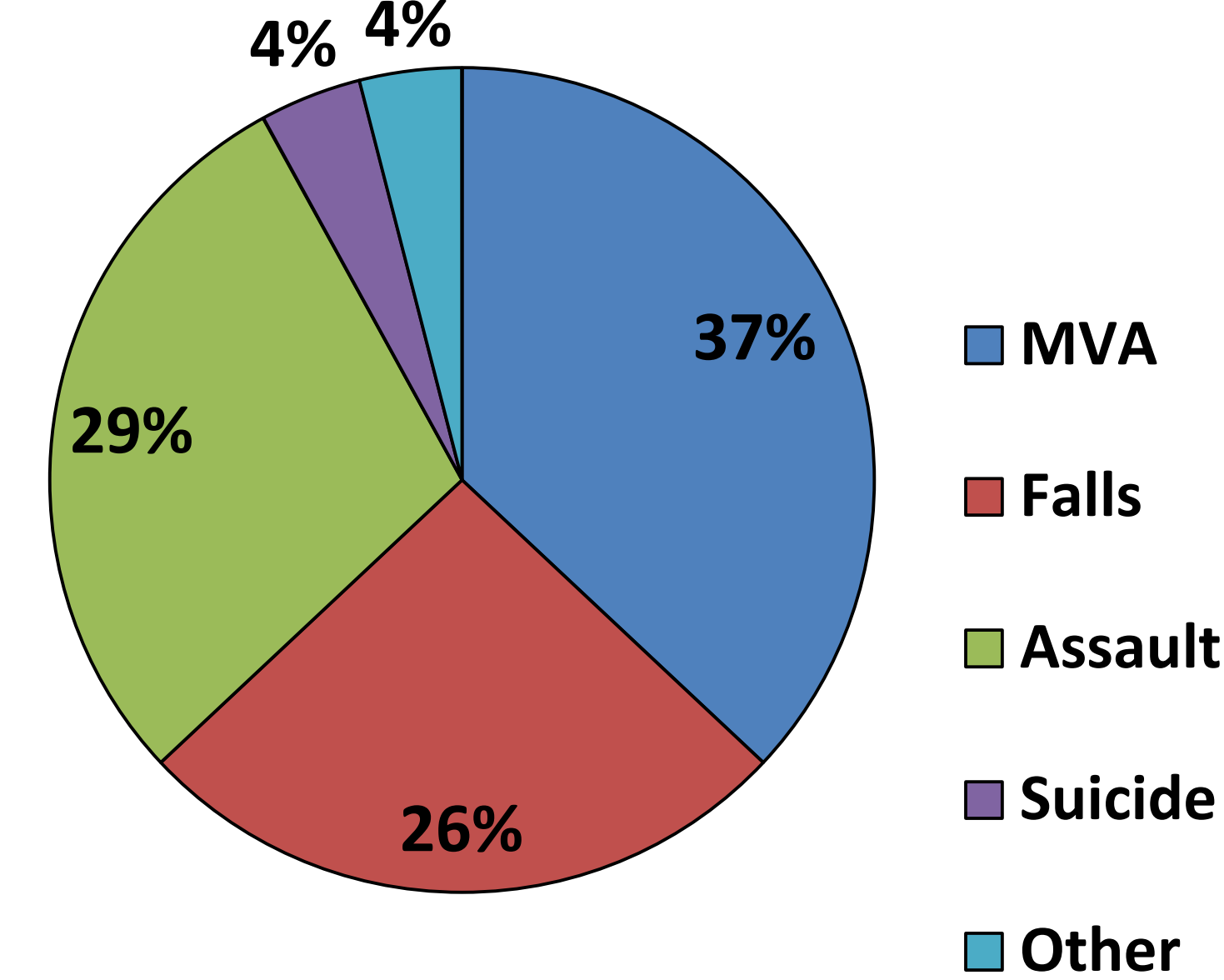
- Injury develops through a process.
- Identifying factors underlying injury can be aided by using conceptual models.
- Conceptual models can guide the development of interventions.
- Injury prevention involves several disciplines.
- Multi-disciplinary interventions are often more successful

JHMC LEVEL I TRAUMA CENTER SNAPSHOT

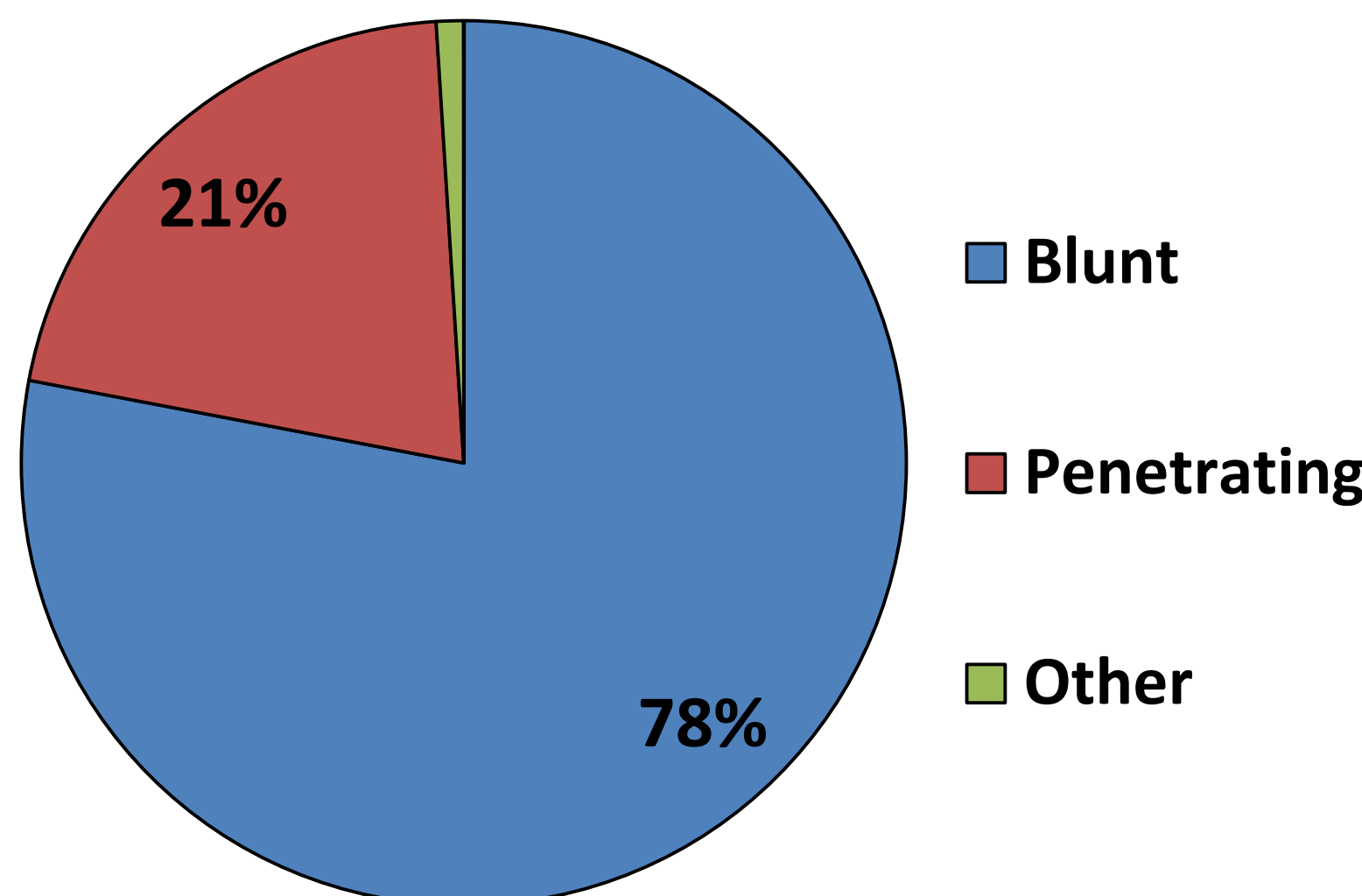
Age



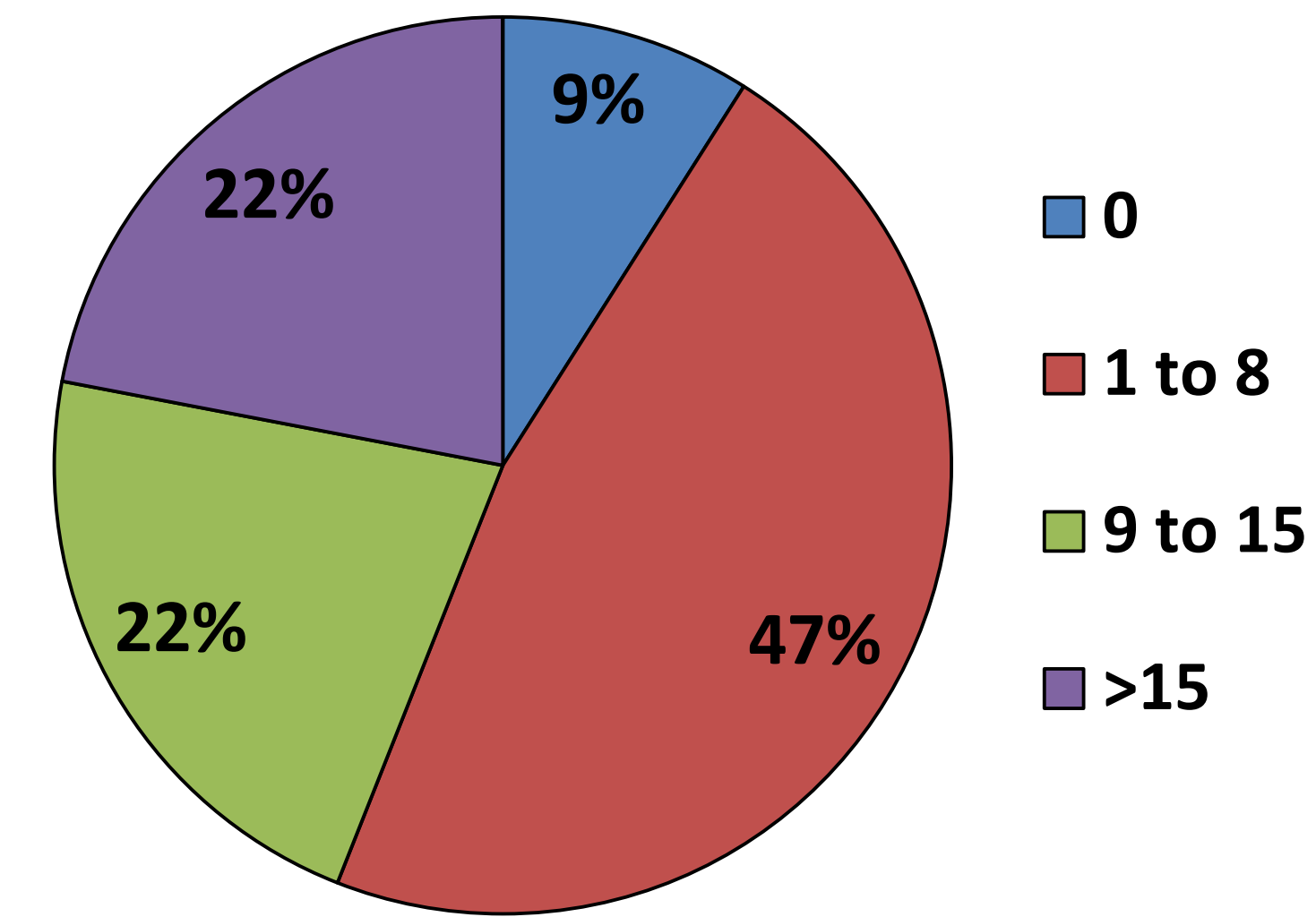
Mechanism



Types of Trauma



Injury Severity Score (ISS)*



- *Injury Severity Score (ISS):
- Used to define major trauma
 - Correlates with mortality, morbidity and hospitalization time.
 - Major/polytrauma is defined as ISS > 15

OT LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

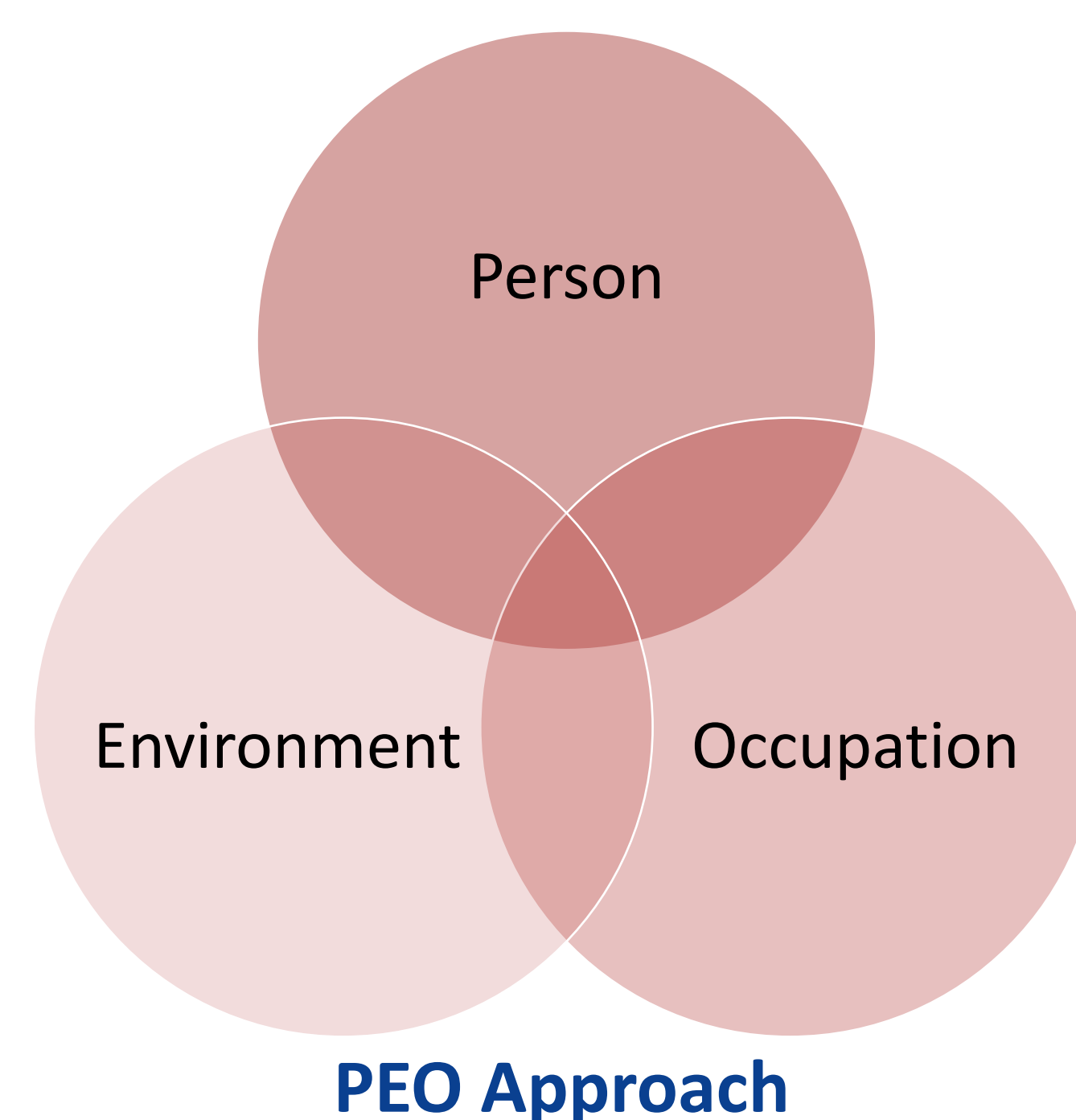
- Utilizes Center's Trauma Registry for Data Driven Problem Identification
- Develops Collaborative, Community-Based, Strategies
- Designs and Implements PEC Population Based Interventions
- Employs Careful Evaluation and Measurement
- Demonstrates Post-Implementation Persistence
- Identifies Funding Opportunities
- Engages in Health Policy & Activism

TYPICAL PROGRAMS

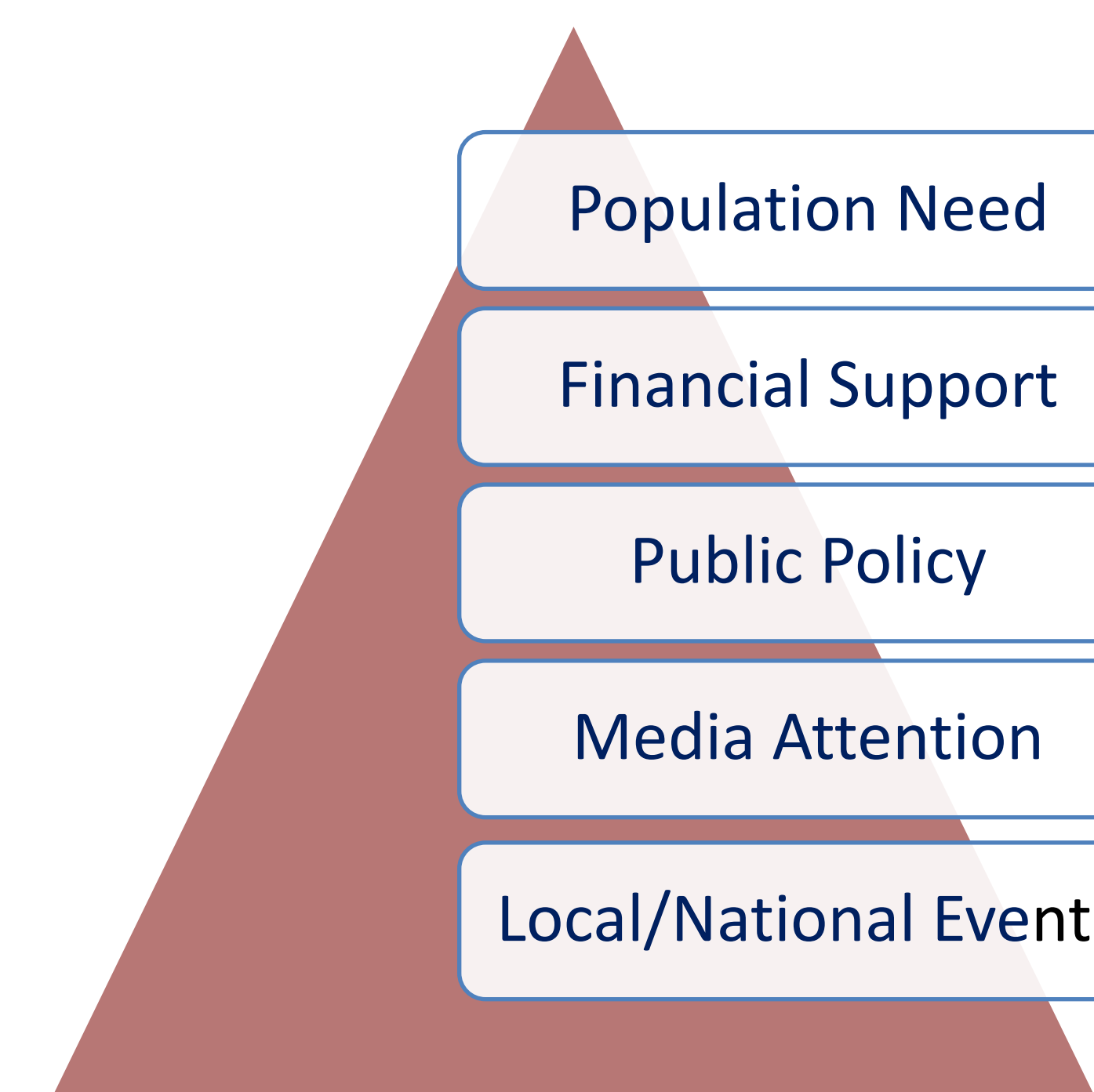
- Helmet Safety
- Violence Prevention Initiatives
- Fall Prevention
- Distracted Driving Education
- Car-Seat Education
- Street Crossing/ Pedestrian Safety



OT APPROACH AND INFLUENCING FACTORS



PEO Approach



Influencing Factors

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