

Houry named Director for the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

Debra Houry, MD, MPH, has been selected as the permanent Director of the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She will join the NCIPC on Oct. 6, 2014.

Houry is vice chair for research and associate professor in the Department of Emergency Medicine at Emory's School of Medicine and in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Health Education and Department of Environmental Health at the Rollins School of Public Health.

She is also an attending physician at Emory University Hospital and Grady Memorial Hospital, as well as director of the Emory Center for Injury Control.

"I'm excited for this opportunity to work with an amazing team in the CDC to impact injuries and violence on a national level and to translate what I see in the emergency department into areas for prevention," Houry says. "I'm grateful for all the mentorship and support I've had at Emory and look forward to continued collaborations."

Houry received her MD and MPH degrees from Tulane University. Her research has focused on injury and violence prevention in addition to the interface between emergency medicine and public health, and the utility of preventative health interventions and screening for high-risk health behaviors.

She has served on a number of boards and committees within the field of injury and violence prevention.

"Given Dr. Houry's long-standing expertise in injury and violence prevention, and her strong experience as a scientist, leader, and partnership builder, I am excited to welcome her to CDC," says Director Tom Frieden.

For more than 20 years, the CDC injury center has helped protect Americans from injury and violence, by applying scientific principles to find real-world solutions. As director, Houry will lead a staff of more than 250 in national efforts for non-occupational injury prevention and control, including the prevention of prescription drug overdose, motor vehicle-related injuries, traumatic brain injuries, and violence against children and youth. The center's staff also partners with state and local health agencies, private organizations, and other federal agencies to reduce violence and monitor injury-related health issues.