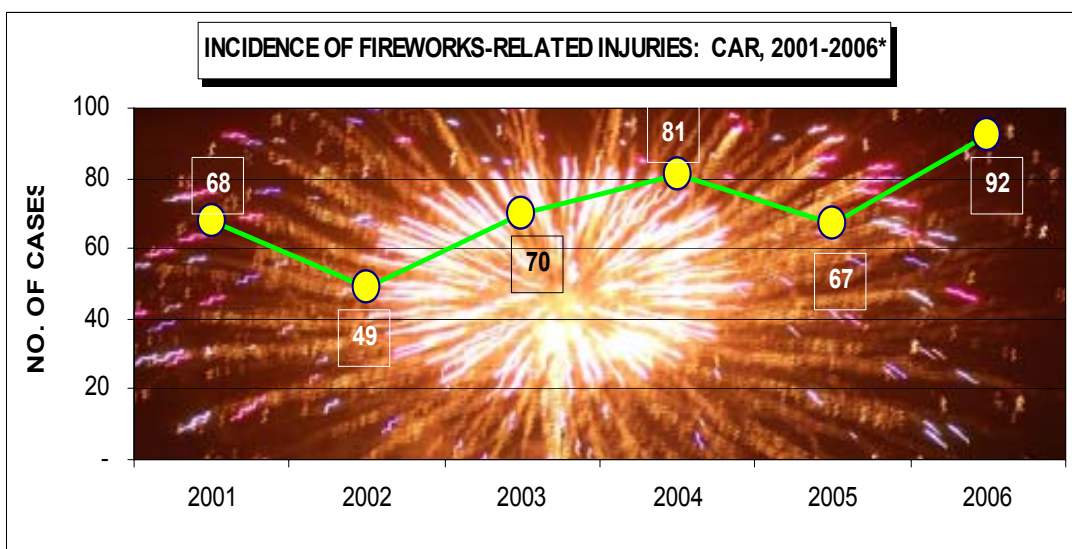




Did you know that ...

...the incidence of fireworks-related injuries in the Cordillera from Dec. 21, 2006 to Jan. 2, 2007 was the highest in the last six years?



In spite of the campaign of the Department of Health (DOH) to minimize if not totally prevent injuries and deaths in the last Christmas and New Year's Day celebrations, the incidence of fireworks-related injuries in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) from Dec. 21, 2006 to Jan. 2, 2007 was the highest in the last six years.

The monitoring report of DOH-CAR shows that there was a generally upward trend of fireworks-related injuries starting with 68 cases in 2001* and ending with 92 cases in 2006. The incidence in 2006 was an increase of 37.3 percent over the total number of cases in 2005. Year 2002 had the least incidence with 49 cases.

On a per province basis, the same report showed that the province of Abra had the highest number of cases in 2006 with a share of 29 percent of all reported cases in CAR. Baguio City is not far behind with 28 percent. Ifugao and Mt. Province showed the least incidences at 3 and 2 percent, respectively.

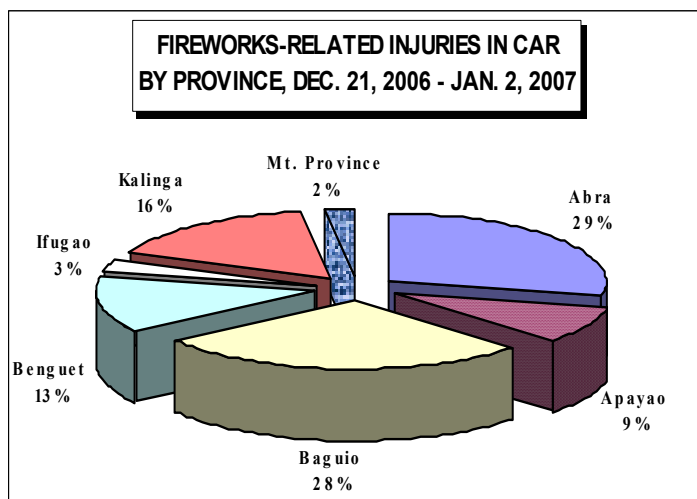
In promoting a safe Yuletide celebration, the DOH embarked on a campaign advising the public to follow the FOURmula.

*Though the periods covered are labeled in years, the actual duration monitored cover only the period from December 21 of the year indicated up to January 2 of the following year and not the whole year.

Source of basic data: Department of Health

The first is not to use firecrackers at all. In case one is hurt by a firecracker, the victim should immediately wash the affected area with soap and water then go to the nearest hospital or health center. Third is never to pick-up defective firecrackers. Fourth is an advice to gun owners not to fire their guns to welcome the new year.

Fireworks are devices for producing a striking display of light, noise or smoke by the combustion of explosive or flammable compositions. [Webster's New Encyclopedic Dictionary]



FEBRUARY 18 : HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

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