

Title of Intervention: The New Zealand Graduate Driver Licensing System (GDLS)

Intervention Strategies: Environments and Policies

Purpose of the Intervention: To reduce motorcycle traffic crashes

Population: Motorcycle riders

Setting: New Zealand; community-based

Partners: None mentioned

Intervention Description:

- Environments and Policies: The Graduate Driver Licensing System (GDLS) for car drivers is targeted to the 15 to 24 year age group. Progression through driver license stages is associated with minimum time constraints and a progressive lifting of restrictions on driving opportunities, such as driving at night. Progression from the learned to the restricted license stage is based on meeting certain criteria for driving skills in traffic, as measured by the passing of a practical on-road driving test. No additional test is required before a full license is issued.

Theory: Not mentioned

Resources Required:

- Staff/Volunteers: Not mentioned
- Training: Not mentioned
- Technology: Not mentioned
- Space: Not mentioned
- Budget: Not mentioned
- Intervention: Injury crash data
- Evaluation: Injury crash data, statistical software

Evaluation:

- Design: Cross sectional
- Methods and Measures: Injury crash data were obtained from the New Zealand Health Information Services national public hospital inpatient data files

Outcomes:

- Short Term Impact: Not measured
- Long Term Impact: The introduction of the GDLS was found to be closely followed by a significant reduction in motorcycle traffic crash hospitalizations for the 15-19 year age group.

Maintenance: A three stage GDLS comprised of learner, restricted and full license stages was implemented in New Zealand on August 1, 1987 and remains in operation to date.

Lessons Learned: An examination of vehicle registration and driver licensure data suggests that the reduction in injury crashes may be largely attributable to an overall reduction in exposure to motorcycle riding.

Citation(s):

Reeder, A. I., J. C. Alsop, et al. (1999). "An evaluation of the general effect of the New Zealand graduated driver licensing system on motorcycle traffic crash hospitalisations." *Accid Anal Prev* 31(6): 651-61.