Global Road Safety: Analysis of Global Status Reports on Road Safety

Despite the global efforts, RTIs remain disproportionately high in LMICs and progress in achieving global road safety goals varies significantly between countries. HICs have implemented most of the recommended rules, whereas low rates of achievement were observed in LMICs. In terms of progress on countries’ achievements, the same pattern was observed (HICs) when compared to high-income countries (LMICs). A20

Statement of purpose

The purpose of this presentation is to evaluate progress towards achieving the Decade of Action for Road Safety by analyzing the results of three Global Status Reports on Road Safety.

Methods/Approach

The analysis was based on the data from the three Global Status Reports on Road Safety with global level data from 2010, 2013, and 2016. Descriptive analyses and t-tests were conducted to evaluate the past and current trends in road traffic deaths and countries’ progress in achieving key road safety indicators. Data from 160 countries that consistently reported their statistics for all three global status reports were included in the analysis.

Results

A slight decline in road traffic deaths during the past decade was observed, however, current global deaths were found to be unacceptably high standing at a rate of 16.4/100,000. This decline considerably varied between countries and was highly dependent on the income level of the country, with deaths significantly high in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) when compared to high-income countries (HICs). In terms of progress on countries’ progress in achieving key road safety indicators, the same pattern was observed where HICs have implemented most of the recommended rules, while low rates of achievement were observed in LMICs.

Conclusion

Despite the global efforts, RTIs remain disproportionately high in LMICs and progress in achieving global road safety indicators is slow.

Significance

This analysis highlights the need for continued efforts towards promoting road safety especially in LMICs and identifies areas for improvement that must be addressed for the new Decade of Action for Road Safety from 2021–2030.

Pediatric Injuries

Epidemiology of Falls in Young Children

Falls are the leading cause of emergency department visits among children less than five years old. Parents are encouraged to supervise their children and provide a safe environment to prevent injuries, but there are few evidence-based interventions to prevent child falls. This analysis aimed to identify factors related to unintentional nonfatal fall injuries in children under five.

Methods/Approach

Data about children under five years who experienced a fall in 2015 were extracted from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System All Injury Program. The case narratives were reviewed and coded for what the child fell from, fell onto, the fall action (i.e. tripped, dropped, rolled), and the precipitating event leading up to the fall.

Results

In 2015, an estimated 121,531 infants (<12 months), 443,867 toddlers (1–2 years) and 326,382 preschoolers (3–4 years) were treated in an emergency room for an unintentional non-fatal fall. Among infants the leading source of falls was from beds (36%) primarily due to rolling from a laying position onto the floor (90%). Toddlers most often fell from a standing position (23%), from the stairs (17%) or from the bed (17%). Falls from the stairs were primarily due to the child slipping or tripping (84%), but 5% were dropped, such as by an adult carrying them. Before falling from the bed, toddlers were jumping more than any other activity (52%). Among preschoolers, most falls occurred from a standing position (27%) or play equipment (16%). Falls from standing position usually occurred while the child was running (62%) or bathing (18%). Falls from the bed were usually preceded by jumping (62%).

Conclusion

Infants primarily fall from beds; toddlers and preschoolers fall most often from standing or slipping or tripping.

Significance

Understanding the circumstances of fall injuries can help identify new opportunities for prevention and intervention.

Suicide Prevention

Rising Rates: Understanding Trends in Suicide Deaths in North Carolina by Race/Ethnicity and Age Group, 2009–2018

Suicide rates have increased between 2009–2018 in NC from 13.9 to 16.0 per 100,000 (n=1,085) and 1,463. Rates remain highest among males, non-Hispanic (NH) whites, and those 45 and older. This project sought to understand differences in trends among additional populations.

Methods/Approach

NC Violent Death Reporting System data were used to identify suicide deaths among residents ages 10 and older between 2009–2018. Three-year rolling rates were calculated by race and age group. Data were combined across the study period to assess differences mechanisms.

Results

There were 13,101 suicides between 2009–2018 (86.5% NH white, 8.3% NH black, 2.8% Hispanic, and 2.5% NH American Indian, Asian, or other/unknown race). The 2016–2018 suicide rate was highest among NH whites ages 45–54, 55–64, and 35–44, followed by NH American Indians ages 15–24 (26.7, 25.3, 24.3, 21.9, and 20.3 per 100,000 respectively). Rate increases were highest among youth and young adults across all racial/ethnic groups. Although rates were lower among NH white and black youth ages 10–14 (3.1 and 2.7 per 100,000 for 2016–2018), they experienced the greatest percent increase (148.0% and