



**Child Passenger Safety Then & Now: Data & Partnerships Fuel Advances**

Kristy B. Arbogast, PhD  
Center for Injury Research and Prevention  
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

2016 Lifesavers Conference  
Long Beach, CA




---

---

---

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

### The Modern Era of CPS



July 8, 1996: *USA Today* publishes article describing how children are killed by passenger air bags

Education and laws increase

- Rear seating for children
- Use of age-appropriate restraints

---

---

---

---

---

---

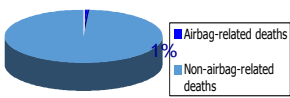
---

---

---

---

### US Child Occupant Deaths At The Time



Category	Percentage
Airbag-related deaths	1%
Non-airbag-related deaths	99%

Airbags were a small part of the problem  
Needed to think beyond airbags

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Research-driven change for improved safety for children

- Needed a data source

**Partners for Child Passenger Safety**  
 Bluebird Research Corporation  
 The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia  
 Neighbors working together

---

---

---

---

---

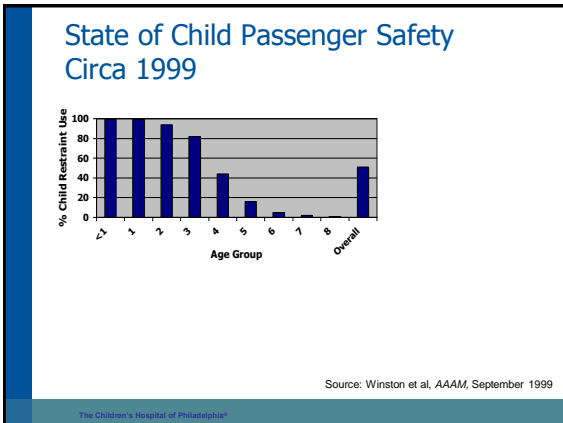
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

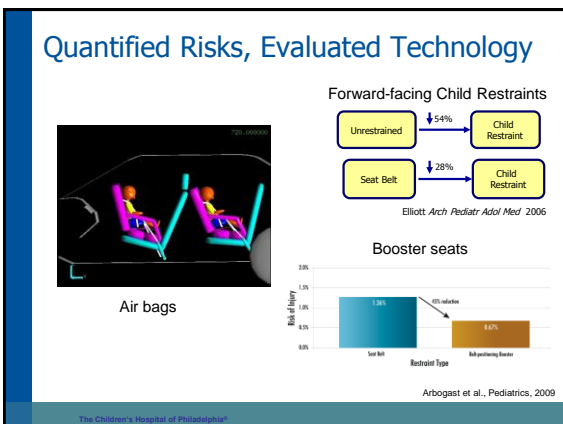
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

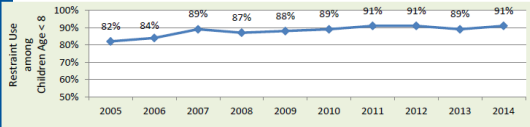
---

---



## Sustained Response

Restraint Use Age <8 years



Source: NHTSA NOPUS 2014

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

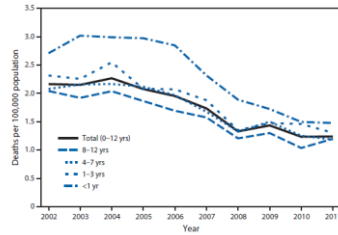
---

---

---

## US Motor Vehicle Deaths Among Children Ages 12 and Younger

FIGURE 1. Motor vehicle occupant deaths per 100,000 population for children aged 0-12 years, by age group and year — United States, 2002-2011



Decreased 43% in past decade



CDC Feb 2014

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## How To Make Further Gains?

- Keep eye on the goal – protecting real children in real cars
  - Align research and advocacy priorities with potential impact
- Surveillance is the foundation for all efforts
  - Contemporary, child-specific data is critical
  - Science is the starting point for action
- Include partners & rely on them
  - Include them from the beginning
  - But make their action easy - translate research

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Our Approach



The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Action

Inform Safety Products & Regulations



Advocate for Evidence-based Laws



Provide Recommendations

Logos for the American Academy of Pediatrics and NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration). Below the logos are several report covers, including "CPS Issue Report" and "Do Laws Make a Difference?".

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## For Real World Impact... Collaboration is Essential

- Collaborate in all phases of research and advocacy: From project definition to project conduct, analysis and dissemination
- Partners – leverage & buy-in
  - Influencers of the target population
    - Government – laws and policies
    - Industry – makes the products families buy
    - Advocacy orgs – deliver messages to families
    - Medical community – source of respected info
  - Communities and families

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## Center for Child Injury Prevention Studies (CChIPS)

- Need: a neutral collaborative space where typically competing organizations could work together
  - Essential to moving the needle further on reducing injury/deaths-
- Part of CIRP at CHOP
- National Science Foundation Industry University Cooperative Research Center
- Conduct fundamental research to spur industrial R & D
- Composed of Faculty from
  - CHOP/Penn – founding site in 2005
  - Ohio State University – second site brought on in 2009

CChIPS | Center for Child Injury Prevention Studies

---

---

---


---

---

---

---

---



## CChIPS Mission

"To advance the safety of children by facilitating the conduct of scientific inquiry into childhood injuries and to translate these findings into commercial applications and public education programs for prevention."

...In brief: *Science + Impact*

CChIPS | Center for Child Injury Prevention Studies

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Our Members

CChIPS | Center for Child Injury Prevention Studies

---

---

---

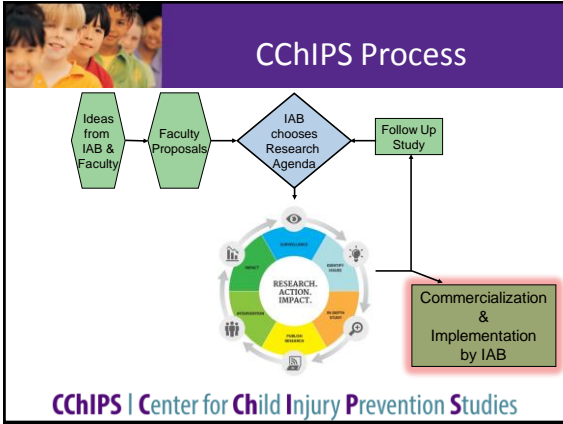
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

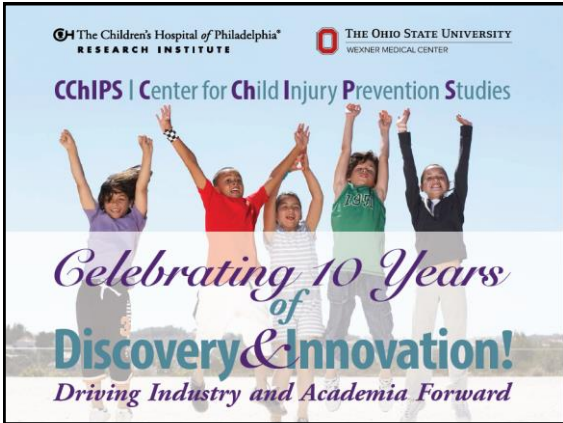
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*A Decade of* **Child Injury Research**

Since 2005, CChIPS has conducted over 106 research projects. The following are a sampling of the innovation that could only be fostered by CChIPS.

- Data Linkage: Catalyzing Advancements in Teen Driver Safety**
- Human Volunteer Testing**
- Giving the Podium to Student Researchers**
- A Risk-free Environment to Observe Teen Drivers**
- PREPARING the Next Generation of Scientists**
- Partners for Child Passenger Safety**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## Industry Perspective

- “One great project is the digitization of car seats. Not only would it have been very difficult for the auto and car seat manufacturers to do without CCHIPS, the researchers would not have thought of doing it without the influence of the companies. So it worked from both directions.”
- “Being involved in CCHIPS has multiple benefits for our company. Not just the value of the research for our company...but being involved has helped us generate other ideas and forge partnerships...so that we can put together a safer products for kids.”
- “The scientists are able to evolve with industry instead of just being focused on a scientific problem. Because they collaborate with manufacturers who face real-life consequences of technology, their research is forever relevant.”

**CCHIPS | Center for Child Injury Prevention Studies** 22

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Child Occupant Protection Targeted Issues for the Future

1. COP is currently complex for families
  - How do we help families make the right choice?
  - How do we make typical behavior safe?
  - How do we simplify usage?
  - How do we improve compatibility?
2. Improve rear seat protection for children
  - How to advance consumer information programs and regulations
3. Autonomous vehicles
  - Different demands for safety?

23 | The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---



---

---

---

## 1. Simplify Child Restraint Use

- Misuse rates remain high
  - even with LATCH/ISOFIX
- Tremendous investment to educate parents re: best practice
- Ease-of-use ratings improve design
- Change narrative to “simple & positive”
- Make “typical behavior” safe
- Cannot engineer out all incorrect behavior
  - design more forgiving systems

24 | The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---






---

---

---

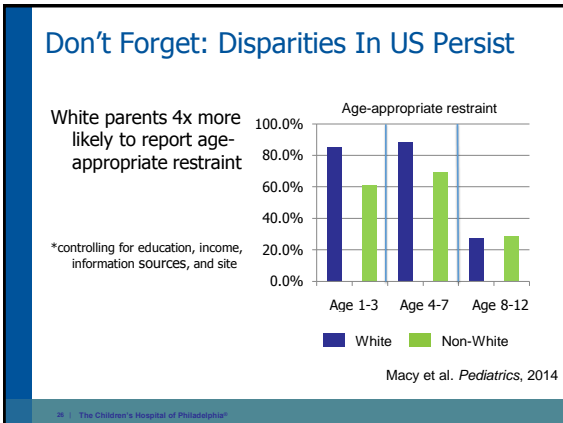
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

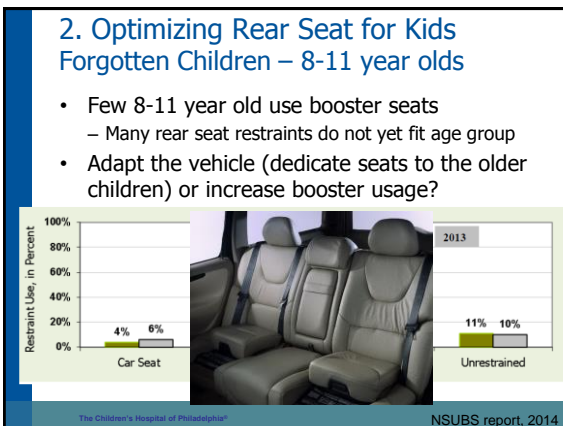
---

---

---

---

---




---

---

---

---

---

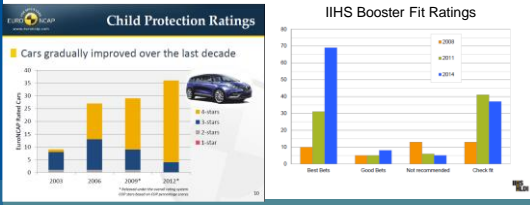
---

---

---

## Regulation is a Minimum Standard

- Doesn't always rule out bad designs
- May not always incorporate all current knowledge of biomechanics or crashworthiness – ATD or test method limitations
- Consumer ratings can be powerful




---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## US NCAP Star Ratings



When consumers use NCAP ratings to guide vehicle purchasing decisions, they may assume ratings apply to all occupants in vehicle

Do they?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## US Consumer Information Programs



**Frontal impact**    **Side impact**

Driver  
Right front passenger

Driver  
Right rear (small adult) passenger



Driver

Driver  
Right rear (small adult) passenger

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## EuroNCAP

### Dynamic Performance 2016

#### Frontal Offset Deformable Barrier



From latest EuroNCAP news release...

*"Almost all new cars in this release not only offer low and/or high speed autonomous braking (AEB) systems ..., but also have incorporated more advanced restraint technology on the rear seats to cope with the newest full-width frontal crash test."*

© The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 5-STAR SAFETY RATINGS FOR THE FUTURE

- A frontal oblique crash test
- Use of a 5<sup>th</sup> percentile female dummy to enhance safety of rear seat
- New adult crash test dummies for driver tests
- A pedestrian rating
- Crash avoidance and new technology rating

© The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Rear Seat Engineering Considerations

- Seat geometry
- Seat belt anchorage locations
- Advanced seat belt technology
- Suboptimal positions



© The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Seat Geometry

Median length of second row seat cushion (455 mm) longer than the thigh length of 24% of adult rear seat occupants and 83% of child rear seat occupants

Only 35-55% of shoulder belts cross the mid-clavicle in 8-15 year olds

Seat pan geometry not designed for anti-submarining like front seats

But... seat pans need to be long enough for CRS

Huang and Reed, 2006; Bilston et al 2007

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Advanced Restraint Technology

#### Seat belt load limiters

- Release excess belt webbing when a certain level of force is reached in the belt to minimize injury
- Head excursion increases as chest deformation decreases



#### Load sharing

- Front seat - air bag and knee bolster
- Rear seat - only the seat belt

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Advanced Restraint Technology

#### Seat belt load limiters

- Release excess belt webbing when a certain level of force is reached in the belt to minimize injury
- Head excursion increases as chest deformation decreases



**Combo of load limiter and pretensioners** shown to improve both head and chest injury metrics in rear seat (Kent et al, 2007; Forman et al, 2009)

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### 3. Autonomous Driving Cars Future car fleet with different demands?

**Hypothesis:**

- the less control you have over a situation (the car is in control) the less likely you are to accept being injured

Increased expectation of safety in autonomous driving cars?

**Further discussion and research needed:**

- What are society's expectations?
- What goals are possible to aim for? AIS1? AIS2?



The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Targeted Issues for the Future

1. Child occupant protection is current complex for families
  - How do we help families make the right choice?
  - How do we make typical behavior safe?
  - How do we simplify usage?
  - How do we improve compatibility?
2. How to advance consumer information programs and regulations to improve protection for the rear seat
3. Autonomous vehicles
  - Different demands for safety?

Partnerships are necessary to make this happen

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Free Digital Resources

[WWW.CHOP.EDU/CARSEAT](http://WWW.CHOP.EDU/CARSEAT)



DOWNLOADABLE RESOURCES @  
[INJURY.RESEARCH.CHOP.EDU](http://INJURY.RESEARCH.CHOP.EDU)

The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

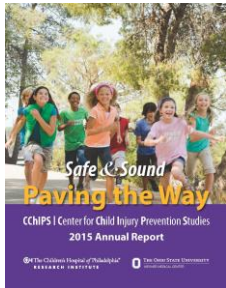
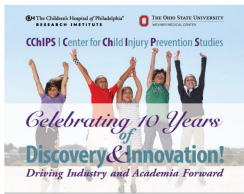
---

---

---

## More Information On CCHIPS

[CCHIPS.RESEARCH.CHOP.EDU](http://CCHIPS.RESEARCH.CHOP.EDU)



48 | The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia®

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---