Identifying and Reducing Occupational Road Safety Risks

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Abstract

Occupational road traffic crashes account for a large portion of killed and seriously injured road traffic victims. Several organizations have introduced driver-training programs in order to determine a safety culture and improve the safety of employees and society, as well as to comply with insurance company requests to reduce risks. The aim of these programs is to identify and promote desirable traits and remove attitudes and behaviors that are associated with higher crash involvement. The factors, which predict involvement in road traffic collisions, were driver personality; behavior, attitude and personal exposure are important determinants. It does show that driver attitudes and behaviors are a predictor of crash involvement, although their impact seems lower than exposure variables such as mileage, hours driven and having an aggressive personality. Where this is impossible or unpractical, efforts to assess attitudes and behaviors associated with poor driving and to improve these through training and other interventions do appear to be validated as worthwhile. It is useful for greater effort to be taken by organizations to promote a safety culture and make use of education programs to improve driver related attitudes and behavior. Hazard perception and knowledge of the Rules do not appear to be strong predictors of accident involvement, but they are important in underpinning attitude, behavior, personality and exposure. Absolutely, where practical, the attention of safety programs should be directed to those with aggressive, impulsive and impatient personalities. The findings support that drivers with these personality types have greater involvement in road traffic collisions.

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