American Trauma Society: 50 Years of Injury Prevention

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50 Years of Injury Prevention: 1968 - 2018

1968 - 1970
- The ATS is founded
- Seat belts first become mandatory in cars
- Mail order sales of rifles and shotguns banned
- Child-resistant packaging required for household poisons

1973: The ATS advocates for the EMS Act, the first federal program to build EMS/trauma systems
1974: Federal Fire Prevention and Control act passes
1976: Smoke alarms required in homes
1978: First mandatory child restraint use law passed

1970 - 1980

1980 - 1990
- First federal car seat crash test standard implemented
- First state law mandates seat belt usage
- ATS helps establish National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at CDC
- First state enacts mandatory bike helmet law
- First National Trauma Awareness Month
- Crime Control Act creates firearm-free school zones

1990 - 2000
- ATS successfully lobbies for the passage of the Trauma Systems Development Act
- First state makes not wearing a seat belt a primary offense
- ATS launches a national trauma registry training program and course
- Semiautomatic assault weapons banned
- States required to establish a zero-tolerance law for under-21 drivers

2000: ATS establishes the first national certification for trauma registry professionals, the CSTR

2000 - 2018
- Mandatory seat belt laws found to reduce traffic fatalities by 8% and serious traffic-related injuries by 9%
- Pool and spa products required to prevent entrapment drowning
- Trauma Prevention Coalition established
- 2018: 50th Anniversary of the ATS
- 2018: 21 states and Washington D.C. have statewide bike helmet use laws for some cyclists

For more information, visit us at www.amtrauma.org
52 million injuries in America:
• 107,000 killed
• 49,000 died in motor vehicle collisions
• 10 million temporarily disabled
• 400,000 permanently disabled
• $18 Billion in cost

1965
White Paper Recommendations

• Called for the establishment of a National Trauma Association

• “a means of stimulating public demand for accident (sic) prevention...through research, public and professional education, and community services”
American Trauma Society incorporated on June 27, 1968
• 1990 Injury Control Act
• ATS hosted meetings to seek collaboration on the goals of the Center
• Worked with it’s first director, Dr. Mark Rosenberg
• Appeared before Congress to press for appropriations for injury prevention
National Center for Injury Prevention and Control

- Initially focused on studying causes of firearm deaths and how to prevent them
- Identified that presence of a gun in the home increased the risk of firearm-related death and greatly increased risk of suicide by firearm
- Counter-campaign launched by the NRA
1996

Dickey Amendment:
“none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the CDC may be used to advocate or promote gun control”

$2.6 million shifted from gun violence research to traumatic brain injury
2018 – American College of Surgeons
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- 1981: First federal car seat crash test standard implemented
- 1984: First state law mandates seat belt usage
- 1986: ATS helps establish National Center for Injury Prevention and Control at CDC
- 1987: First state enacts mandatory bike helmet law
- 1988: First National Trauma Awareness Month
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- 1990: ATS successfully lobbies for the passage of the Trauma Systems Development Act
- 1993: First state makes not wearing a seat belt a primary offense
- 1994: ATS launches a national trauma registry training program and course
- 1994: Semiautomatic assault weapons banned
- 1995: States required to establish a zero-tolerance law for under-21 drivers
- 2000: ATS establishes the first national certification for trauma registry professionals, the CSTR

2000 - 2018
- 2007: Mandatory seat belt laws found to reduce traffic fatalities by 8% and serious traffic-related injuries by 9%
- 2008: Pool and spa products required to prevent entrapment drowning
- 2012: Trauma Prevention Coalition established
- 2018: 50th Anniversary of the ATS
- 2018: 21 states and Washington D.C. have statewide bike helmet use laws for some cyclists

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ATS Supported or Endorsed:

- Development of passive restraint standards
- Use of motorcycle helmets
- Standards for minimum equipment list for first responders
- Adopt the 911 system as standard
- Self-extinguishing or “fire safe” cigarettes
- Use of child safety seats
- Minimum drinking age of 21
- Ban of plastic hand guns
- Mandatory seatbelt and helmet legislation
Semi-automatic Assault Weapons Ban

- ATS officers invited to White House for briefing
- Congress to vote in 2 days – 4 votes short in the House of Representatives

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May 26, 1994

Mr. Harry Teter
Executive Director
American Trauma Society
Suite 512
8903 Presidential Parkway
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2656

Dear Harry:

Thank you very much for your efforts to support the passage of the assault weapons ban. These weapons have contributed to violent crime and have traumatized our nation’s communities for too long. With your support and encouragement, the House of Representatives took an important step toward getting assault weapons off the streets, out of our neighborhoods, and out of the hands of criminals.

Again, many thanks for your meaningful contribution.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Red Light Running 1998

• Worked with DOT, Chrysler Corporation on campaign against red light running

• Announced on the National Mall by US Transportation Sec. Rodney Slater

• Remarks by:
  – Robert Eaton, CEO Chrysler Corp.
  – Ricardo Martinez, Administrator NHTSA
  – Harry Teter, Executive Director ATS
Traumaroo Programs

- Children at Play
- Safe at Home
- Staying Friends (avoiding confrontation)
- Playground Safety
30 Years of Making a Difference
1988-2018

INJURY IS NO ACCIDENT

National Trauma Awareness Month
• ATS worked with Congress and the Executive Branch to create and initiate NTAM
• Sponsored by Senators Robert Byrd and Bill Lehman
Competition

February is National Awareness Month!

June is Goat Trauma Awareness Month!
Distracted Driving

• Also theme in 2012
• NTSB recommended banning use of hand-held devices
  – 15 states, D.C. and territories do
  – Only 19 states and D.C. ban cell phone use by school bus drivers when children present
Sports Injuries

NTAM
“PLAY IT SAFE”
2014

MAY IS NATIONAL TRAUMA AWARENESS MONTH
Drugs/Drinking, Distraction, Drowsiness

- 2013: 2.3 million injuries and 32,000 deaths from MVCs
- 18% involved distracted driver
- 31% involved alcohol-impaired driver
Safe Steps for Seniors

• #1 injury mechanism
• 2.5 million ED visits
• ¾ million hospitalizations
• ~22,000 deaths
2017

As of March 2018 in the United States:

• 15,332 instructors
• 124,350 trained
Personal Recreational Vehicles

- Jet skis
- ATVs
  - >100,000 ER visits
  - ⅓ in kids <16 yrs old
- Snowmobiles
- Dirt bikes
  - Usually <17 yrs old
  - Male
- Golf carts
We are stronger together

American Automobile Association Foundation for Traffic Safety (AAA)
American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
American Burn Association (ABA)
ACS – COT
BIA
CDC – National Center for Injury Prevention and Control
Children’s Safety Network
CPSC
EAST
EMSC
Injury Free Coalition
National Safety Council
NHTSA
Pediatric Trauma Society
Safe Kids
Safe-States
Society for Advancement of Violence and Injury Research (SAVIR)
STN Injury SIG
Trauma Prevention Coalition
Keep Moving Forward

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Special Thanks

• Dr. Robert Walker, past president of ATS, Stone Lecture 1998
• Harry Teter, past Executive Director of ATS
• Dr. Basil Pruitt, *founding member* and past president of ATS 1992 – 1994
• ATS National Office Staff
• ATS Injury Prevention Committee
• Injury Prevention Professionals everywhere