

Young Researchers Seminar 2009

Torino, Italy, 3 to 5 June 2009

Reducing Young Drivers' Accident Risk

Graduate Licensing Programme
and Hazard Perception Test

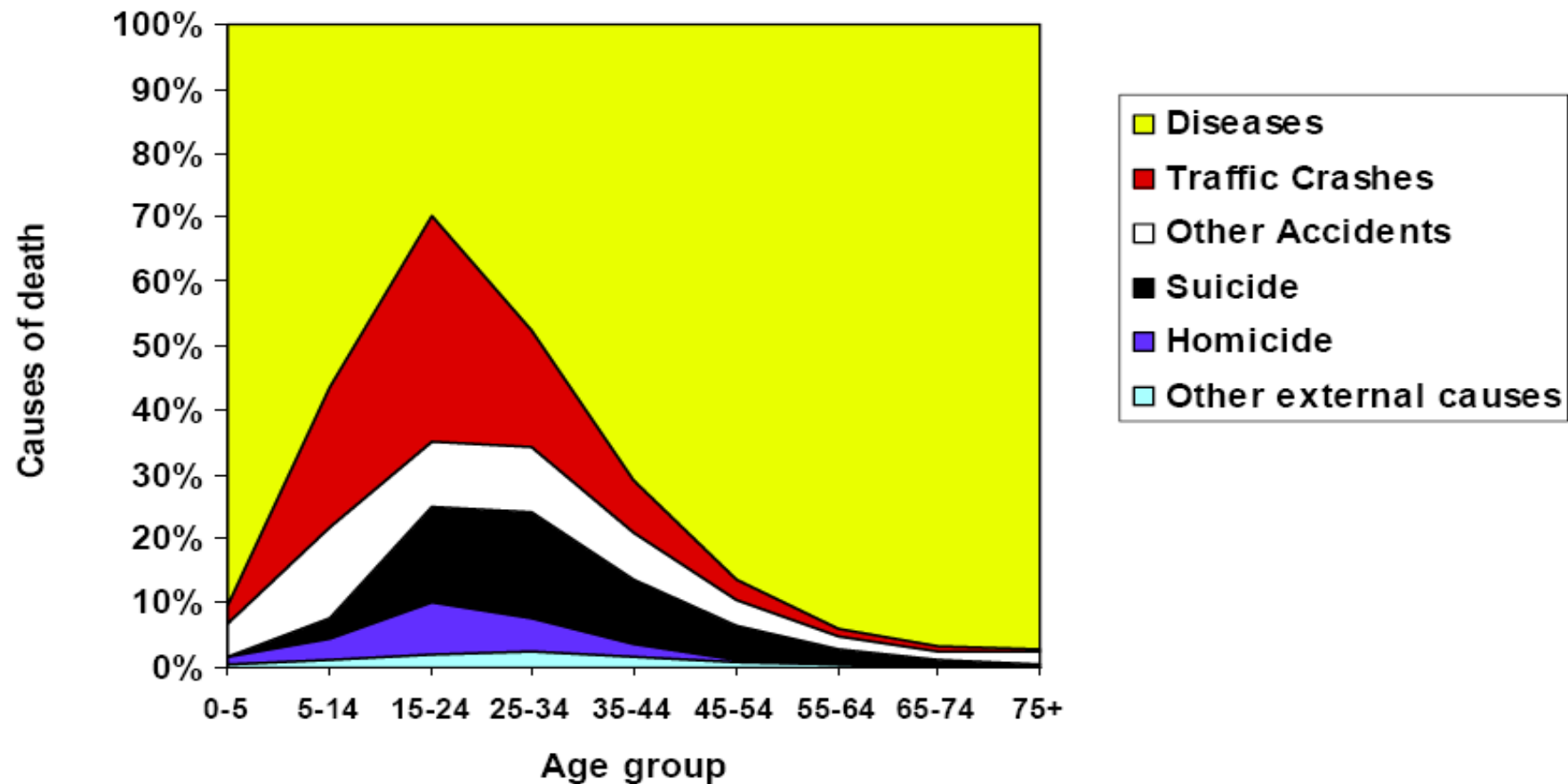
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Outline

- Young drivers' risk
- Licensing systems
- Graduate driver licensing (GDL)
- Hazard perception test
- Conclusion

Causes of death in OECD countries by age group



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Young driver and all driver deaths in selected OECD countries, 2004

	A	B	C	D	C/D
	Young drivers	All drivers	Young as percent of all driver deaths	Young as percent of total population	
Australia	195	771	25.2	11.2	2.3
Austria	110	368	29.9	9.9	3.0
Canada	262	935	28.0	12.9	2.2
Germany	750	2 329	32.2	8.2	3.9
Great Britain	330	1 106	29.8	10.2	2.9
Hungary	53	397	13.4	10.3	1.3
Japan	326	1 519	21.5	8.3	2.6
N. Zealand	51	205	24.9	12.9	1.9
Netherlands	74	269	27.5	8.3	3.3
Poland	313	1 441	21.7	12.0	1.8
USA	3 999	13 209	30.3	12.8	2.4

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Young, novice drivers' increased risk

- Age
- Gender
- Over-confident and risky driving
- Peer pressure
- Lack of experience
- Weaknesses in hazard perception abilities

Key features of young learner drivers' risk

- Sharp decrease during the first few years
- Males versus females
- Highly dangerous types of crashes
- Night-time and weekend-night crashes
- Effect of similarly aged passengers

Legislation on licensing systems

- Classification of licenses
- Theoretical and practical driving test
- Withdrawal of licences
- Penalty point system
- Special regulation for novice drivers

Trends in licensing systems

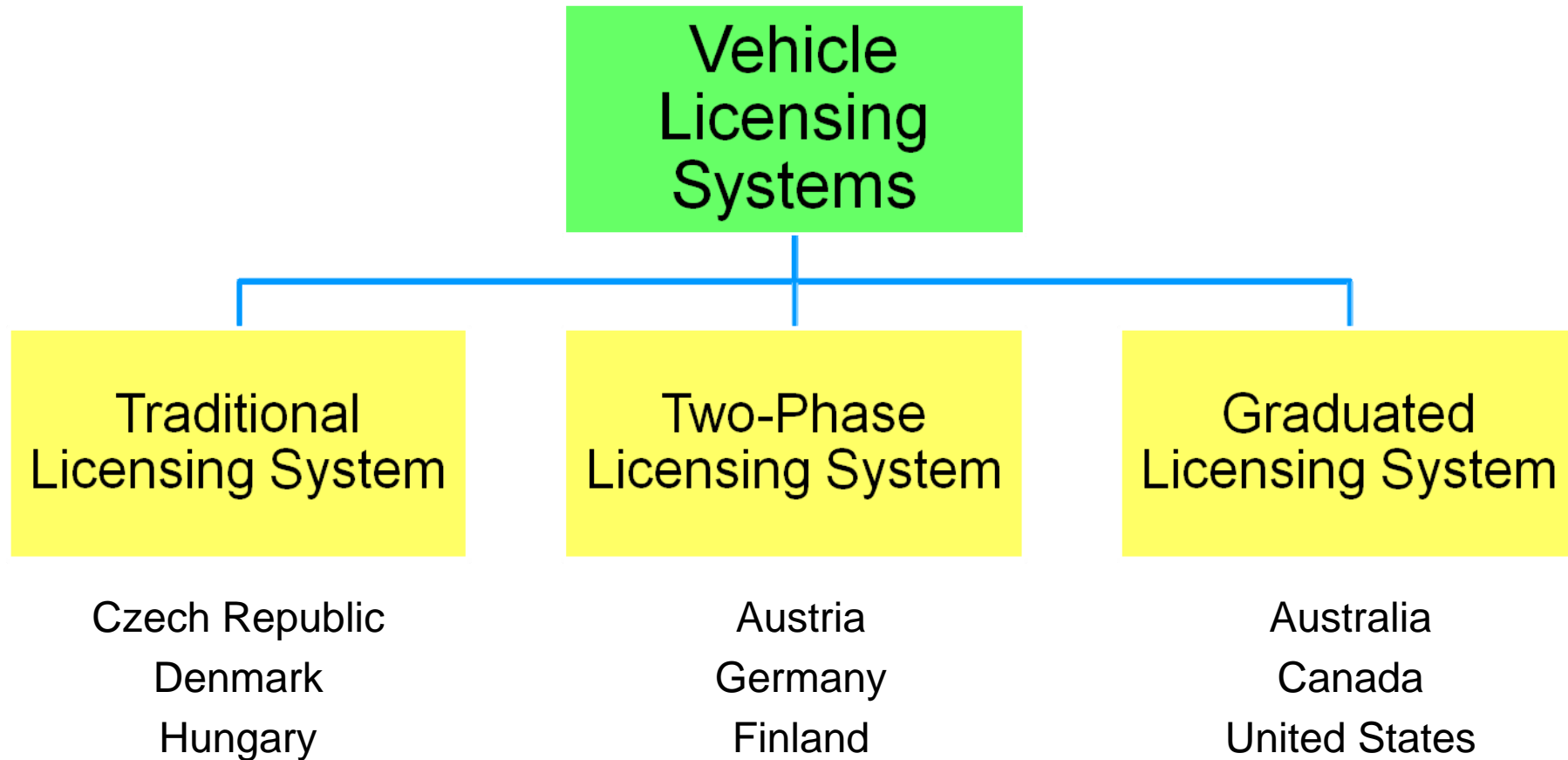
- Addressing new skills
- Increasing driving experience
- Protective measures for novice drivers

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Vehicle licensing systems



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Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL)

- Reducing increased accident risk
- Controlled and supervised phasing-in of driver privileges
- Obtaining driver experience under low-risk conditions

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Recommendations for GDL systems

- Adult supervision and driving restrictions during the learner's stage
- 30-50 hours of certified driving (including night-time driving)
- Minimum 6-month learner's phase
- Unsupervised night driving restriction
- Passenger restrictions
- Exit test prior to full-privilege licensure
- Penalty provisions for beginners with poor driving records

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New South Wales, Australia



- Driver Knowledge Test



- Learner licence



- Driving test



- First provisional licence



- Hazard Perception Test



- Second provisional licence



- Driver Qualification Test



- Unrestricted licence

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New South Wales, Australia



- Learner licence: 12-60 months
- First provisional licence: 12-18 months
- Second provisional licence: 24-30 months

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Licence restriction for L, P1 and P2

Licence restriction	Learner Licence	Provisional P1 licence	Provisional P2 licence
<i>Zero Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)</i>	You cannot have any alcohol in your system when you drive a vehicle.	You cannot have any alcohol in your system when you drive a vehicle.	You cannot have any alcohol in your system when you drive a vehicle.
<i>Demerit points</i>	A learner who commits driving offences may have their licence cancelled.	Your driver licence will be suspended if you incur 4 or more demerit points.	Your driver licence will be suspended if you incur 7 or more demerit points.
<i>Location restrictions</i>	You must not drive in Sydney Centennial Park	None.	None.
<i>Mobile phone</i>	You must not use any function of a mobile phone, including hands free devices, when driving.	You must not use any function of a mobile phone, including hands free devices, when driving.	You cannot use a hand-held mobile phone when driving.

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Licence restriction for L, P1 and P2

Licence restriction	Learner Licence	Provisional P1 licence	Provisional P2 licence
<i>Passengers</i>	None.	P1 drivers under 25 years of age are restricted to carrying one passenger under 21 years of age between 11pm and 5am. Further restrictions for disqualified drivers.	If you are disqualified from driving while a provisional licence holder, you will be restricted to carrying one passenger at all times while driving for a period of 12 months.
<i>Seatbelts</i>	You must ensure all occupants are using the seatbelt.	You must ensure all occupants are using the seatbelt.	You must ensure all occupants are using the seatbelt.
<i>Speed limit</i>	You must not drive faster than 80km/h.	You must not drive faster than 90km/h.	You must not drive faster than 100km/h.
<i>Supervising a learner</i>	You must not supervise another learner driver.	You must not supervise another learner driver.	You must not supervise another learner driver.

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Licence restriction for L, P1 and P2

Licence restriction	Learner Licence	Provisional P1 licence	Provisional P2 licence
<i>Supervision</i>	You must not drive without a supervising driver.	None.	None.
<i>Towing</i>	You must not tow a trailer or any other vehicle.	You are allowed to tow light trailers up to 250kg unloaded weight.	None.
<i>Vehicles</i>	None.	You cannot drive vehicles with high performance six cylinder engines, eight or more cylinders, turbo-charged engines, or engine performance modifications.	You cannot drive vehicles with high performance six cylinder engines, eight or more cylinders, turbo-charged engines, or engine performance modifications.

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Hazard Perception Test

- More experienced drivers have more advanced hazard perception skills.
- Computerised hazard perception tests can:
 - Identify drivers with inadequate hazard perception skills
 - Encourage the development of hazard perceptin skills

Hazard Perception Test

- The New South Wales Graduate Driver Licensing system has two hazard perception tests.
- Computer-based hazard perception tests:
 - Allow for standardisation
 - Easy to mark
 - Cost-effective to administer

Conclusion

- GDL programmes managed to reduce young novice drivers' accident risk.
- Touch-screen computer-based hazard perception tests are a good measure of some higher skill.
- The Hungarian traditional licensing programme would benefit from the introduction of some GDL elements.

Thank you for your attention

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