

New Study Finds ATV-Related Head and Neck Injuries Among Youth Continue to Remain High

An average of 31 children receive emergency treatment every day for head and neck injuries sustained on ATVs

Nationwide Children's Hospital

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NEWS PACKAGE

SUGGESTED TEASE	<p>RIDING A-T-V'S MAY SEEM LIKE A LOT OF FUN, BUT THEY CAN ALSO BE EXTREMELY DANGEROUS. COMING UP, A NEW STUDY SHEDS LIGHT ON THE SURPRISING NUMBER OF CHILDREN INJURED WHEN RIDING ATVS.</p>
ANCHOR LEAD	<p>RIDING ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES ARE A POPULAR ACTIVITY AROUND THIS TIME OF YEAR, BUT EXPERTS WARN THEY SHOULD BE ENJOYED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.</p> <p>MANY A-T-V'S CAN TRAVEL AT HIGHWAY SPEEDS¹, AND A CRASH OR ROLLOVER CAN HAVE DEVASTATING CONSEQUENCES, ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN.</p> <p>BARB CONSIGLIO HAS THE DETAILS ON A NEW STUDY² DOCUMENTING JUST HOW MUCH OF A THREAT A-T-V'S POSE TO CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN TO PREVENT INJURIES.</p>
<p>(PACKAGE START) ----- CG: Courtesy: Nationwide Children's Hospital :00 - :03 Shots of ATV riding</p> <p>Shots of Paige studying</p>	<p>(Nats - Sound) :02</p> <p>A-T-V'S CAN BE A LOT OF FUN TO RIDE, BUT THEY'RE ALSO POWERFUL AND POTENTIALLY DANGEROUS MACHINES.</p> <p>IT'S SOMETHING PAIGE CLUNE (CLOO-nee) KNOWS ALL TOO WELL AFTER THE A-T-V SHE WAS A PASSENGER ON HIT A POTHOLE AND ROLLED OVER WHEN SHE WAS JUST TWELVE YEARS OLD. :06</p> <p><i>"After the accident, when I went to the hospital, I had a concussion. And due to the bones in my head being broken, I actually burst an eardrum and I lost all the hearing in my left ear."</i> :12</p>
<p>CG: Paige Clune Injured on an ATV</p> <p>Shot of the ICU</p>	<p>PAIGE SPENT TWO WEEKS RECOVERING IN THE I-C-U, AND EXPERTS SAY INJURIES LIKE HERS ARE</p>

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<p>Graphic: <u>ATV Head and Neck Injuries in Children</u> -280,000 Children Treated -Average of 31 children every day 25-years study</p>	<p>ALL TOO COMMON.</p> <p>A NEW STUDY BY THE CENTER FOR INJURY RESEARCH AND POLICY AT NATIONWIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FINDS THAT OVER A TWENTY-FIVE YEAR PERIOD ABOUT 280 THOUSAND CHILDREN WERE TREATED IN U-S EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS FOR A-T-V-RELATED HEAD OR NECK INJURIES—AN AVERAGE OF THIRTY-ONE CHILDREN EVERY DAY. :19</p>
<p>CG: Gary Smith, DrPH Nationwide Children's Hospital</p> <p>Shots of ATV on off-road surface</p> <p>Graphic: Children injured on roadways 50% more likely to be admitted to hospital</p>	<p><i>"These are very serious injuries and, in fact, over 15% of the children required admission to the hospital."</i> :06</p> <p>BUT MANY OF THESE INJURIES ARE PREVENTABLE WITH SAFETY PRECAUTIONS LIKE STAYING OFF OF ROADWAYS OF ALL TYPES.</p> <p>THE STUDY FOUND CHILDREN INJURED ON ROADWAYS WERE ONE AND ONE-HALF TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE ADMITTED TO THE HOSPITAL THAN THOSE INJURED AT OTHER LOCATIONS. :12</p>
<p>CG: Kris Jatana, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital</p> <p>Shots of ATV rider putting on protective gear</p>	<p><i>"The asphalt, as well as concrete, in addition to other vehicles such as cars and trucks traveling at high speeds certainly increase the risk of injury."</i>:13</p> <p>ANYONE ON AN A-T-V SHOULD RIDE ALONE AND WEAR PROTECTIVE GEAR LIKE GLOVES, BOOTS AND GOGGLES...AND, OF COURSE, PROTECTING YOUR HEAD IS THE MOST CRITICAL. :06</p>
<p>Dr. Smith (CG'd earlier)</p> <p>Shots of Dr. Jatana reviewing x-rays of injured patient</p>	<p><i>"The top three things that a rider on an ATV should wear are a helmet, a helmet, and a helmet."</i> :07</p> <p>EXPERTS SAY THE STAKES ARE HIGH AND CHILDREN WHO ARE TOO YOUNG TO POSSESS THE COORDINATION AND QUICK JUDGMENT TO SAFELY OPERATE A-T-V'S SUFFER INJURIES AT HIGHER RATES AND SIMPLY SHOULD NOT BE ON THESE VEHICLES. :11</p>
<p>Dr. Jatana (CG'd earlier)</p>	<p><i>"Children under 12 accounted for nearly half of the injuries seen in our study."</i> :06</p>
<p>Dr. Smith (CG'd earlier)</p> <p>Shots of Paige putting on protective gear</p>	<p><i>"At that speed, with heavy machines like that, one mistake can be life changing."</i> :05</p> <p>PAIGE STILL ENJOYS THE OCCASIONAL RIDE, BUT TAKES EVERY PRECAUTION TO DO SO SAFELY. :05</p>
<p>Paige Clune (CG'd earlier)</p>	<p><i>"Be careful and have fun while being careful."</i> :02</p>

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<p>Nationwide Children's Hospital</p>	<p>Smith says children under 12 shouldn't be on ATVs, yet accounted for nearly half of the injuries: <i>"One of the remarkable findings of this study is that children younger than 12 years of age represented almost half, about 46%, of those injured in this study. This is an age that simply shouldn't be on an ATV."</i></p>
<p>CG: Kris Jatana, MD Nationwide Children's Hospital</p>	<p>Jatana explains the rise in injuries seen between 1997 and 2007: <i>"Prior to that, a consent decree between the ATV manufacturers and the government existed. These resulted in numerous safety regulations, and when this went away, injuries skyrocketed."</i></p> <p>Jatana states the common types of injuries seen in the study: <i>"The most common types of head and neck injuries we saw in children included concussions and closed head injuries, as well as fractures. These together accounted for two-thirds of the injuries seen."</i></p> <p>Jatana stresses the importance of following safety regulations from the AAP: <i>"Currently, there is no national regulation of ATVs for use by children and state laws vary. It's important that everybody follows these safety recommendations, so that we can have safe use of these vehicles."</i></p>
<p>CG: Paige Clune Injured on an ATV</p>	<p>Paige says her rollover put the dangers of ATVs into perspective: <i>"Realizing how easy it is to get hurt, I think put that into perspective. And we haven't gone down since then, but we do still like to ride and we just make sure we're being safe when we do it."</i></p>

References

¹How Fast Can ATVs Go? **Boost ATV**. Online: <https://boostatv.com/top-speed/#:~:text=Today's most powerful sports and,how fast it can go.>

²*Nonfatal All-Terrain Vehicle-Related Head and Neck Injuries to Children Treated in United States Emergency Departments, Pediatrics, Aug 10, 2020.*

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