



## Misleading research

Our reviews of the papers below show that it is unwise always to accept an author's analysis at face value. Each of the papers is fundamentally flawed and, in some cases, provides good evidence for an opposite conclusion to that advanced by the authors.

Read these commentaries, compare the original papers, and come to your own conclusions.

[Trends in Pediatric and Adult Bicycling Deaths Before and After Passage of a Bicycle Helmet Law](#)

Wesson D, Stephens D, Lam K, Parsons D, Spence L & Parkin P. Pediatrics. 2008;122:605-610.

[Mandatory helmet legislation and children's exposure to cycling](#)

Macpherson AK, Parkin PC, To TM. Injury Prevention, Inj Prev 2001;7:228-230.

[The effects of provincial bicycle helmet legislation on helmet use and bicycle ridership in Canada](#)

Dennis J, Potter B, Ramsay T & Zarychanski R. Injury Prevention 2010;16:219-24

[Seasonal variation in hospital admission for road traffic injuries in England: analysis of hospital statistics](#)

Gill M & Goldacre M. Injury Prevention 2009;15:374-78

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The Bicycle Helmet Research Foundation (BHRF), an incorporated body with an international membership, exists to undertake, encourage and spread the scientific study of the use of bicycle helmets. Also to consider the effect of the promotion and use of helmets on the perception of cycling in terms of risk and the achievement of wider public health and societal goals.

BHRF strives to provide a resource of best-available factual information to assist the understanding of a complex subject, and one where some of the reasoning may conflict with received opinion. In particular BHRF seeks to provide access to a wider range of information than is commonly made available by those that take a strong helmet promotion stance. It is hoped that this will assist informed judgements about the pros and cons of cycle helmets.

For more information, please visit [www.cyclehelmets.org](http://www.cyclehelmets.org).

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