

Electric scooter injuries rising, one-third involve the head

As reported in JAMA Surgery, the researchers discovered that e-**scooter** injury rates had increased dramatically in just four years: the incidence more than doubled during those years, rising from 6 per 100, 000 in the population to 19 per 100, 000. Of the estimated 14, 651 e-scooter-related injuries in 2018, 4, 658, or 32%, involved the head.

scooter 滑板

Dr. Benjamin Breyer of the University of California, Los Angeles, points to a 2019 analysis of data from two hospitals in Southern California, which found just 4.8% of injured e-scooter riders were wearing helmets.

Dr. Joann Elmore, a professor of medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles, believed that most e-scooter users are probably unaware of the risks. To make the point, she described a photo taken by a colleague. "There were two riders on an e-scooter, " she said. "No one had shoes on. There were no helmets. And the woman in front had a baby in a Baby Bjorn."

The new report highlights the need for more research on new technologies, said Dr. Guohua Li, a professor of **epidemiology** at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health in New York City.

epidemiology 流行病学; 传染病学

Just as there is a global network of experts working on **infectious** diseases, there needs to be "a similar program devoted to the surveillance and prevention of injuries caused by emerging technologies, products and lifestyles, such as e-scooters, e-sports, etc., " Li said in an email.

infectious 传染的

"The challenge for researchers and policy-makers is to keep up with the ever-changing society and protect the public from unnecessary harms caused by new technologies and products without hindering innovation, " he added.