

Electric Scooters Causing Catastrophic Injury

Emma Harrington, EdM, Anna Elmers, M.D., and Herndon Murray, M.D.

Scooters: What are They?

There are two main types of electric scooters:



Brands Include:













Data is a Challenge:



Scooter terminology is not consistent and is often coded incorrectly.



Multiple names and brands make the coding issue more complex.



Minor injuries are often treated at home, on a college campus or urgent care center, so there is no central database accurately collecting the magnitude of the problem.

Electric Scooter Deaths in 2018



Electric Scooters are a Polarizing Topic

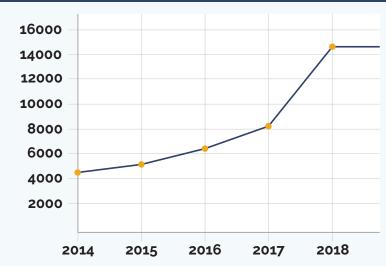
Love them?

- New mobility option for low-income earners to complete that "last mile"
- A more efficient and environmentally friendly transportation option than cars

Hate them?

- ADA compliance issues with scooters blocking sidewalks
- Scooter regulation means that people drive them on the street - a recipe for disaster!

Electric Scooter Injuries



*Data Taken From: Namiri, N., Lui, H., Allen, I., Cohen, A., & Breyer, B. (2020). Electric Scooter Injuries and Hospital Admissions in the United States. JAMA, 357-359

Helmets, Regulation & Infrastructure

Regulation:

- Need standard regulation across counties.
- Need better data-driven decisions, such as the new Atlanta registry called SCRATCH, which was developed by Grady Memorial Hospital and Emory University.

Helmets:



- Need mass media campaigns to educate public on rules of the road, helmet use, etc.
- Need to regulate and work with scooter companies to share safety data and increase safety compliance, such as helmet use and rules of the road.



Infrastructure

Need better urban planning and community buy-in prioritizing pedestrians and bikers over automobiles.