

Rotary



Fellowship of Rotarian Doctors



UN GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

6-12 MAY 2019

CALLING ROTARY CLUBS TO TAKE PART IN THE 2019 GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS – A MAJOR PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUE

Statistics relating to Road Traffic Accidents (RTAs) are shocking.

It is estimated that 1.2 million people are killed on roads every year and up to 50 million more are injured. For everyone killed, injured, or disabled by RTA, there are countless others deeply affected by the cost of prolonged medical care, loss of a family bread winner, or the extra funds needed to care for the people with disabilities. RTA survivors, their families, friends, and other care givers often suffer adverse social, physical, and psychological effects. If the current trends continue, the number of people killed and injured on the world's roads will rise by more than 60% by 2020.

WHO ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

WHO road safety campaign started in 2011.

Governments, international agencies, civil society organizations, and private companies from more

RTA – ROTARIAN DOCTORS JP1/26 September 2018 pg. 1

Together We can
Save millions
of lives.



**DECADE OF ACTION FOR
ROAD SAFETY 2011-2020**

www.decadeofaction.org

than 100 countries launched the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011 – 2020.

The next Road Safety week will be in May 2019.

We are calling on Rotary Districts and Clubs to consider appropriate actions in their communities to reduce the burden of RTAs.

The Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011–2020, officially proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in March 2010, seeks to save millions of lives by building road safety management capacity; improving the safety of road infrastructure; further developing the safety of vehicles; enhancing the behaviour of road users; and improving post-crash response. Guided by the Global Plan, the Decade of Action offers a framework for policy, practice and advocacy to help countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

http://www.who.int/roadsafety/decade_of_action/en/

**Register your event on the WHO website –
share your experience.**

<http://www.who.int/roadsafety/week/2017/event-registration/en/>

HOW TO REDUCE RTAs

Some of the tried and tested measures to reduce RTAs are:

Avoiding over-speeding and following speed limits
Avoiding drunken driving
Use of helmets by two-wheeler drivers
Use of seat belts and child restraints in cars
Improving visibility, appropriate headlights and road lightings
Obeying traffic rules.

The importance of First Aid

Many deaths and impact of injuries can be prevented with first aid if casualties are treated immediately. The basic aims of first aid are

To save life

To protect the casualty from getting more harm,
To reduce pain and priorities of casualty treatment.
Immediate requirements in a RTA situation are as follows.

Critical 4 min

One of the most common causes of a road accident death is due to loss of oxygen supply. This is mostly caused by a blocked airway. Normally it takes less than 4 min for a blocked airway to cause death.

The “golden hour”

The first hour after the trauma is called the “golden hour.” If proper first aid is given, road accident victims have a greater chance of survival and a reduction in the severity of their injuries.

WHAT ROTARY CLUBS MIGHT CONSIDER DOING

Below are some suggestions:

1. Meet the traffic authorities and discuss current situation in your community
2. Identify priorities with the help of all stake holders
3. Produce information leaflets to raise awareness and offer advice how to reduce RTAs.
4. Work with target groups – schools, colleges, faith communities, employers
5. Supply high visibility jackets to youngsters who find themselves having to use roads when the lighting is poor
6. Advocacy – write to authorities if a particular need is identified – eg: street lights, road signs, helmets, seat belts, accident spots
7. Offer first aid training

There are a number of resources on:

<http://www.roadsafetyweek.org.uk/action-pack>
<https://www.unroadsafetyweek.org/en/home>

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International Fellowship of Rotarian Doctors is open not only to members of Rotary but to a much wider group of health professionals. For more details please contact:

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