Should States Adopt Texting Bans?

Texting while driving significantly increases crash risk. Research shows that while state texting bans may not produce the lowest possible rate of crash, they are likely a good idea, given that they can reduce texting while driving and other risky behaviors.

Studies to date have been primarily experimental and findings may not translate well to actual crash risks in the field.

The crash risk reduction may vary when texting is replaced with another activity.

Regardless, there is the overall need to promote attentive driving practices.

Examples include talking or other distracted driving behaviors (e.g., changing the radio).

More field research is necessary

Texting increases crash risk and bans reduce cell phone use

Flannagan C. Texting bans, a possibly low-cost and effective means to help improve motor vehicle safety. AJPH Editorials. May, 2019.