

Frank P. McKenna, Hazard Perception

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**c/ieca**  
The International Commission  
for Driver Testing

**Driving is one of the main health threats for young people**

## What should parents do?

- Rely on professional training?
- Rely on driving test?

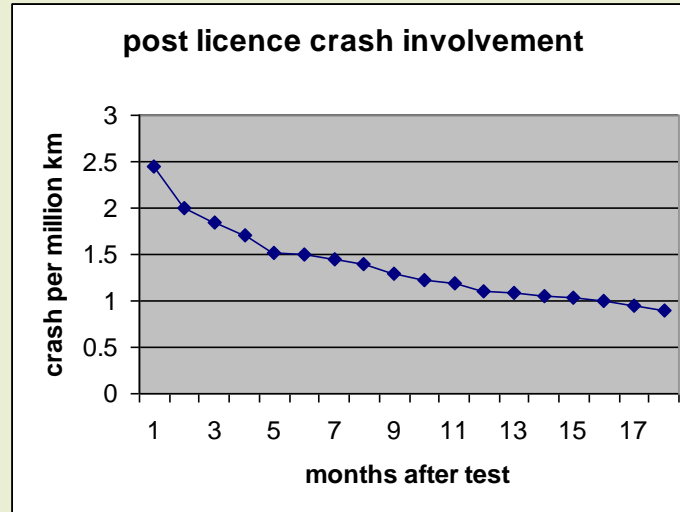
# What is the evidence?

- ❖ Brown, et al (1987);
- ❖ Christie, (2001);
- ❖ Christie, (2007);
- ❖ Ker et al., (2005);
- ❖ Mayew et al (1998);
- ❖ Mayew & Simpson, (2002);
- ❖ Vernick et al., (1999)

## Little evidence to support

- ❖ Driver training
- ❖ Driver testing

# Experience



## What should parents do?

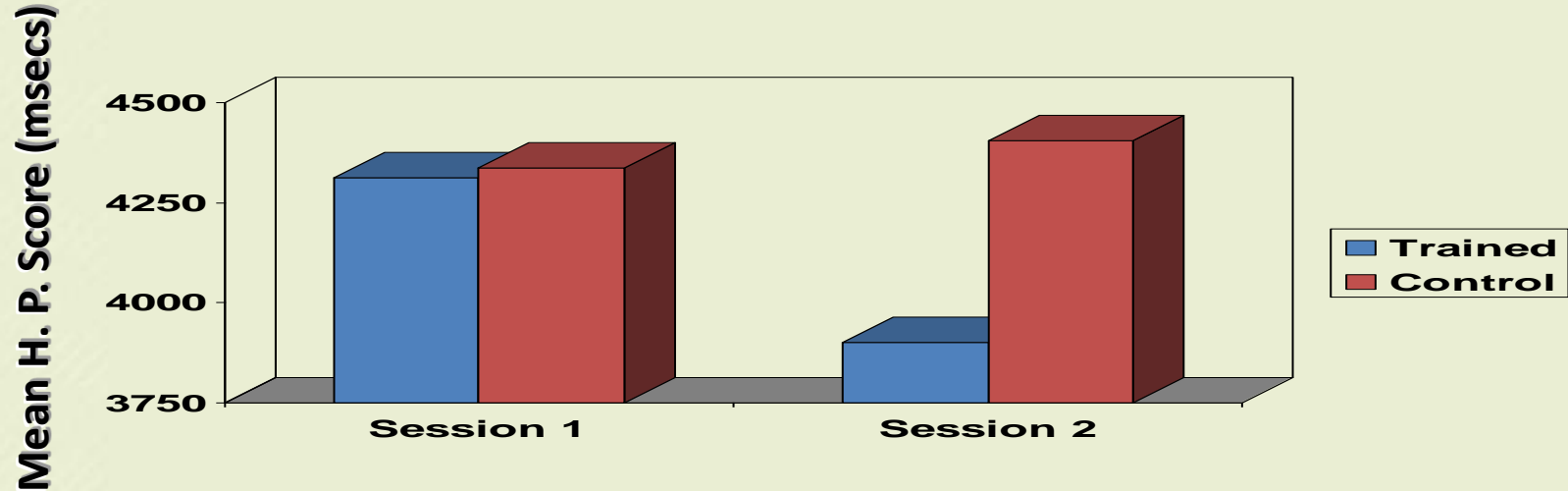
- ❖ Graduated licensing (graduate exposure to night time driving and driving with peers)
- ❖ Increase supervised experience
- ❖ Hazard perception

# Plausible mechanisms of hazard perception

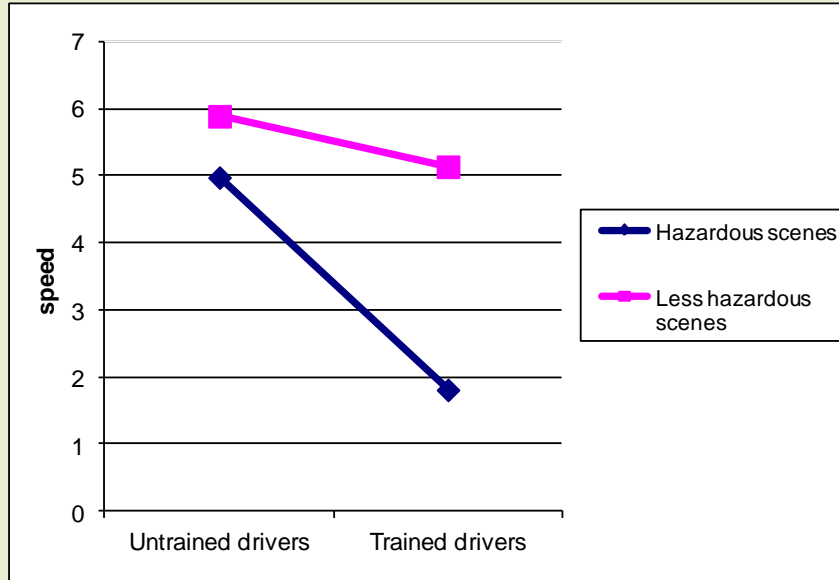
- ❖ directly increase the speed that hazards are detected
- ❖ indirectly through decrease in risk taking



# Training



# Effect of hazard perception on speed choice



# Potential harm mechanisms

- ❖ Early licensure
- ❖ Increased confidence
- ❖ Normalising risky behaviours

# Driver testing agencies claim to improve safety

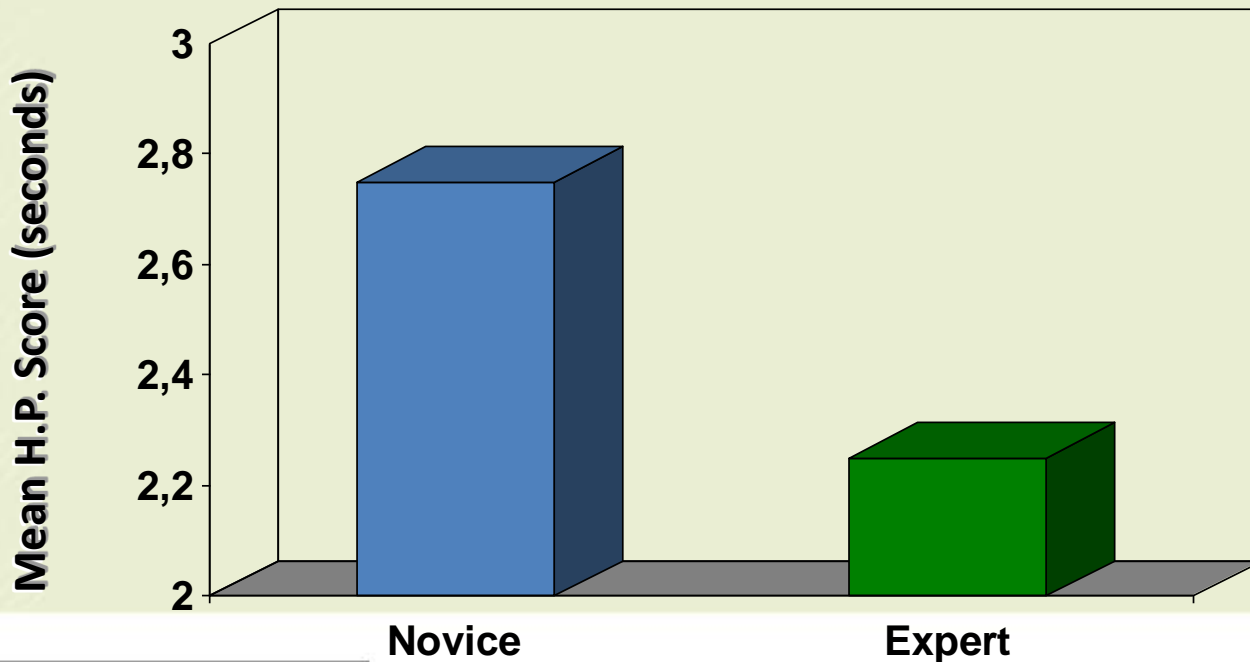
McKenna's Challenge

Prove it

# In introducing hazard perception we want the test to be

- ❖ Internally consistent
- ❖ Valid

# Hazard Perception scores for expert and novice drivers



# Dangers of current driver testing

- ❖ Little relationship to safety
- ❖ Understandable focus on vehicle control can mislead drivers
- ❖ Little ability to control the hazards that happen on the day of the test
- ❖ Difficult to provide a reliable test
- ❖ Difficult to provide a valid test

# Hazard Perception can help by

- ❖ Establishing a relationship with safety
- ❖ Emphasising more than vehicle control
- ❖ Ability to control hazards presented
- ❖ Ability to provide a reliable test
- ❖ Ability to provide a valid test



# Any questions?

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