

3rd World Congress on

PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION

February 26-28, 2018 London, UK



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RELATIONS BETWEEN PUBLIC HEALTH AND ROAD SAFETY

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), traffic accidents are one of the main public health problems that countries are facing, which results in great mortality and injury. However, the relationship between health and road safety goes much further, since the health conditions of drivers have a high incidence in accidents. It must be considered that psycho-physical disorders can be both relatively permanent and transitory, and that they can lead to a treatment mainly with drugs that in itself can also have an impact on the capacities for driving (without disregard for illegal drugs and alcohol). In the following presentation, from the data of an investigation carried out with Spanish drivers, the main health problems that the drivers acknowledge that suffer, whether physical or psychological, are described as well as the knowledge, perceptions, attitudes and behaviors they have in different contexts, and the opinions about different solutions. With all this we propose and analyze the benefits of a series of countermeasures aimed at minimizing the incidence of risk factors related to drivers' health status, among which are: awareness campaigns, diagnosis, medical advice and the selection of drivers both negative and positive.

Biography

Francisco Alonso did his graduation in Psychology and Doctorate in Decision Making from the University of Valencia, Spain. He did Master in Communication at the Miguel Hernández University of Elche, Spain and in Strategic Consulting at the University of Valencia, Spain. Currently he is a Professor at the University of Valencia, Spain on profile "Traffic and Road Safety", attached to the Department of Basic Psychology, Faculty of Psychology. He is a Researcher and Director of the Institute of Traffic and Road Safety at the University of Valencia (INTRAS) and Director of the Research Group DATS (Development and Advising in Traffic Safety), all belonging to the University of Valencia.

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