

ElderSafe – Stakeholders Workshop on
the risks of elderly people in road traffic

Brussels, 5 June 2015

**Countermeasures
to improve
older road users' safety**



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Overall road safety policy for the elderly

Overall **road safety policy** for the elderly should focus to:

- providing safe and easy transportation alternatives,
- restrictive policies should not be priority,
- any interventions should not be discriminatory,
- any policy should be in combination and integrated within with other policies,
- introduction of voluntary driver assessment and link it with raising awareness.



Medical and pharmaceutical sectors

The **medical and pharmaceutical sectors** should play a more active role:

- there is need for raising awareness at the medical and pharmaceutical sector,
- each sector is having a clear distinct role,
- physicians should be trained to judge fitness to drive,
- medical control should concern both physical and cognitive impairments,
- further research is needed for identifying criteria of non-fitness to drive.



Road infrastructure oriented policies

Road infrastructure oriented policies for the elderly safety should focus on:

- development of road environment without surprises and forgiving,
- both urban and rural road networks,
- in urban networks, junctions should be treated in priority,
- there is need for more protective signs for pedestrians,
- higher traffic signs uniformity across Europe could be beneficial.



Vehicle oriented policies for the elderly safety

Vehicle oriented policies for the elderly safety should focus on:

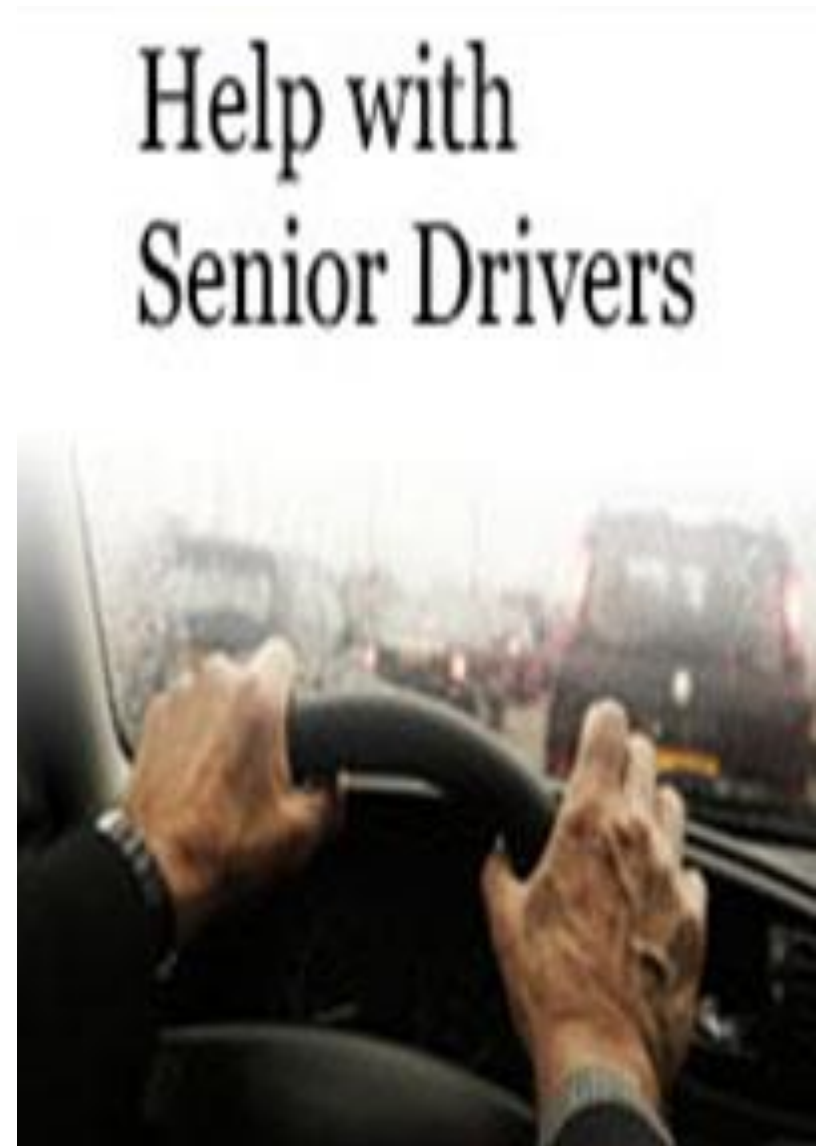
- further development of crash avoidance systems,
- intensify research addressing current technical limitations,
- adapt the vehicle and its technologies for the particular needs of the elderly,
- industry should switch the focus from the vehicle to the driver,
- elderly safety should be introduced in EuroNCAP testing, especially the VRU.



Awareness campaigns for the elderly safety

Awareness campaigns for the elderly safety should focus on:

- sensibilisation of all road users (not only drivers)
- the particular needs of the elderly (drivers, pedestrians)
- more campaigns are needed for heavier vehicle drivers (cars, hgv, buses etc.),
- campaigns should be combined with enforcement to increase results,
- campaigns should be coordinated at national, regional and local level.



Gradual driving licensing (GDL)

The idea of **gradual driving licensing (GDL)** needs further development:

- the focus should be on health issues and not on age (for all drivers),
- GDL should be voluntary,
- there is need for identifying specific medical criteria for any type of GDL,
- need for combined medical and driving tests (in certified centres),
- explore the prediction of non-fitness to drive (instead of fitness to drive).

Driving Licence Categories

13.	8 Cat.	10. From	11. To	12. Codes
14.	A			
	B			
	BE			
	C1			
	C1E			107
	D1			101
	D1E			101,119
	Any			
	115			

1. Scheme
2. Driver Name
3. Date and place of birth
4. Licence valid from
5. Licence valid to
6. Issuing Authority
7. Licence number
8. Category
9. Allocation code

Conditions & Restrictions
Per Relevant Category

Other specific measures for the elderly safety

Other specific measures for the elderly safety could be explored:

- introduction of cheaper public transport for the elderly,
- investigation of new problems from electric vehicles and pedelecs (e-bikes),
- new cars should be able to identify the driver characteristics and adapt,
- all new solutions should be tested also by the elderly (not only by the young),
- elderly safety implications of shared space schemes should be investigated.



The European Union policy

The **European Union policy** should focus on:

- increasing awareness actions at EU, national, regional and local level,
- exchange of knowledge and promotion of best practice on elderly safety,
- develop stronger policies for traffic and safety of pedestrians and other VRUs,
- promote urban road safety policies within sustainable urban mobility plans,
- explore the safety potential of automated vehicles.



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