

How An Air Bag Works.



In less than one-tenth of a second the occupant is protected by the instant inflation of the air bag. The bag then deflates in less than one second.

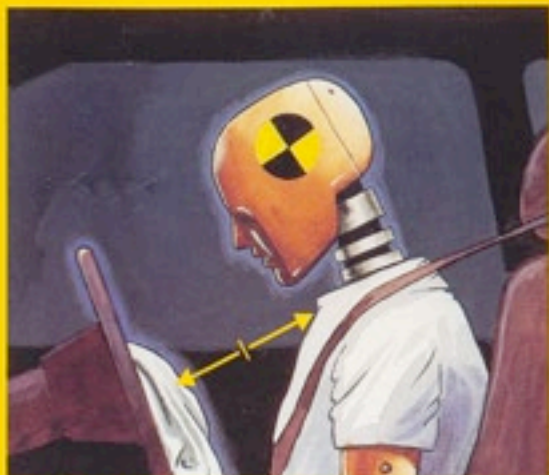
Look Beyond The Obvious.*

While air bags, automatic safety belts and greater use of manual seat belts and child safety seats are saving thousands of lives and preventing hundreds of thousands of injuries each year, injuries can still occur from crash forces. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

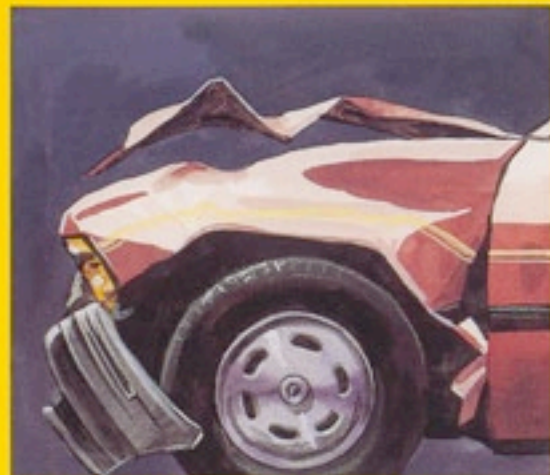
research indicates that some people are dying in the United States as the result of internal injuries that are not being detected and treated. The following observations at the crash S.C.E.N.E. should increase the index of suspicion that internal injuries may have occurred.



S Steering wheel deformation? Lift air bag and look. A bent steering wheel could indicate internal injuries.



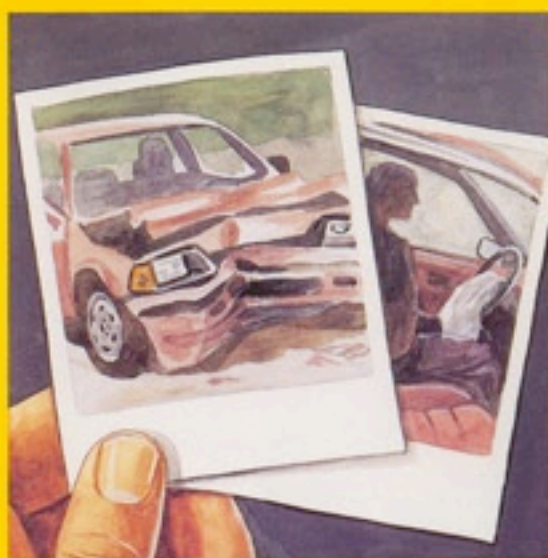
C Close proximity of driver to the steering wheel? Occupants of small stature or large girth sitting close to the steering wheel are at greater risk of internal injuries.



E Energy of the crash? Twenty or more inches of vehicle crush indicates high crash forces.



N Non-use of seat belts? Non-use of lap or lap/shoulder belts could result in multiple impacts and greater probability of internal injuries.



E Eyewitness report of crash scene? Verbal reports, photos and televideo images of the interior and exterior of the crash vehicle convey the severity of the crash, and indicate the probability of occult injuries.

*Drivers and passengers protected by air bags and/or safety belts may have internal injuries. Check the scene for evidence of internal trauma.

Call the Auto Safety Hotline at 1-800-424-9393 to report safety defects and to request information on motor vehicle safety and medical research on crash injuries.



U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration