


UTC Project Information	
Project Title: Teaching Schoolchildren Pedestrian Safety: A Pragmatic Trial Using Virtual Reality	
University	University of Florida
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Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency/organization)	University of Alabama at Birmingham: \$100,075 University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill: \$96,750
Total Project Cost	\$196,825
Agency ID or Contract Number	2013-004S
Start and End Dates	August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2015
Brief Description of Research Project	
<p>This research proposes a method of training children in pedestrian safety using Virtual Reality (VR), which offers a unique opportunity for repeated practice without the risk of actual injury. The research team proposes a pragmatic repeated-measures trial evaluating whether 7- and 8-year-old children learn to cross streets safely through training in a newly-developed VR pedestrian environment placed in a community setting. Data will be analyzed using linear mixed models that test behavioral change over time. It is expected that child pedestrians will have fewer virtual crashes and close calls with motor vehicles, will be more attentive to traffic, and will make quicker and more successful pedestrian crossing decisions following training in</p>	

	<p>the VR.</p>
<p>Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)</p>	<p>All research was completed and we are currently conducting final data analysis and preparing to disseminate results. Research outcomes will be disseminated via scientific conferences such as the Southeastern Regional UTC meeting (6 posters/papers accepted for presentation) and the Society for Pediatric Psychology annual conference (paper presentation), both scheduled in March 2015. We also anticipate submission of a peer-reviewed manuscript within the next few months.</p>
<p>Place Any Photos Here</p>	
<p>Impact/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)</p>	<p>Over 300 children received pedestrian safety training in the virtual environment in summer 2014; over 60 children received intense training as part of our study; about 10 students received training in research as part of completing the study.</p>
<p>Project Website</p>	<p>Final Report (STRIDE Website): http://stride.ce.ufl.edu/uploads/docs/STRIDE_final_report_2013-</p>

[004S_Schwebel.pdf](#)

Final Report (TRB/TRID): <https://trid.trb.org/view/2013/P/1360249>