



October Journal Scan

Submitted by Ann Bacevice, MD

[Pediatric Lawnmower Injuries and Strategies for Prevention: A Systematic Review.](#)

Talathi NS, Ganley TJ, Shea KG, Schwend RM, Baldwin KD.

JBJS Rev. 2018 Dec;6(12):e9. doi: 10.2106/JBJS.RVW.18.00037.

PMID:30589748

This was a systematic review of articles published from 2000 to October 2017. 13 articles were included. Eight were single center studies, the remaining were database reviews. There was a bimodal peak age for injury (age 3 and 16 years). Injuries occurred due to the blade, being hit with a projectile and burn. Riding mowers were responsible for the greater proportion of injuries as well as being associated with more severe injuries. Surgical amputation of fingers or toes were the most commonly performed amputation. Below-the-knee amputation for more severe injuries were reported in 4-13% of patients in 3 of the studies. Blade injuries were more severe than projectile or burn injuries. Blade injuries were associated with a greater need for operative management, amputation and longer length of stay in the hospital.

[Pediatric Lawn-Mower Injuries Presenting at a Level-I Trauma Center, 1995 to 2015: A Danger to Our Youngest Children.](#)

Fletcher AN, Schwend RM, Solano M, Wester C, Jarka DE.

J Bone Joint Surg Am. 2018 Oct 17;100(20):1719-1727. doi: 10.2106/JBJS.18.00096.

PMID:30334881

This was a single center study that was not part of the above mentioned systematic review. 157 children between 1995-2015 were identified. This group also noted a bimodal distribution with peaks at age 4 and 15. 75% of the patients were male. 48% were due to a riding mower injury. Foot and toe were the most injured body parts making up 84% of injuries. The majority of injuries were soft tissue. 40% of the injured experienced at least 1 traumatic amputation with the most frequent body part being the forefoot followed by fingers and hind foot. The younger children had a higher ISS score, higher amputation rate, longer length of stay and more operative procedures compared to the older children. Furthermore, the younger children had a tendency to be injured by a riding mower, be a passenger or bystander when a grandparent was mowing and live in a rural or non-metropolitan area.