

MOTORCYCLE

ACCIDENT

WHAT DO YOU DO?

Words by **ProRider**

We challenge you to ask yourself the question **WHAT WOULD YOU DO?**

Your mate is hurt, the bike is on top of him and you are in the middle of nowhere with no phone coverage.

Would you stand back and wait for someone else to try to help? Let him die? Or do you like to have the skills and knowledge to get in and help?

Riding a motorcycle definitely has its risks due to the fact that we are very exposed and vulnerable on a bike. This is why motorcyclists suffer more body trauma in crashes than car drivers and passengers.

As evidenced by our ACC Statistics - a high proportion of our motorcycle accidents on the open road are single vehicle accidents - motorcyclists losing control on corners. The rider is also most likely to be the only one involved in nearly 70% of fatal crashes and 60% of serious injury crashes.

Much of New Zealand's roading systems favoured by motorcyclists are out of the cities in very picturesque but remote areas. Many recreational riders like to ride together in groups and when an accident happens there is a good chance that the first person on scene will be a fellow motorcyclist. How you cope with

the "Platinum 15", the first 15 minutes after the crash - could be the difference literally between a life or death situation.

Motorcycle crashes have their own very special characteristics, people are on the road, there are helmets and riding gear to cope with, the bike and its heated components like engine & pipes, as well as exposure to a variety of hazards such as: other road users, environment, weather, road surface etc.

Offroad riders also suffer the same issues in terms of remoteness and lack of available help when its required.

Many Kiwis already hold First Aid Certificates but this does not mean they have specific knowledge on how to manage a motorcycle accident scene.

WHAT CAN YOU DO ABOUT IT?

Now available in NZ - Accident Scene Management training NZ (ASMA-NZ)

Originating in the US in 1996, the Bystander Assistance Programme was developed in response to the need to enhance the survival rate and reduce the severity of injuries at the accident scene.

Over 20,000 riders in the USA have been trained in this course and large numbers have now been

trained in Australia. In the USA, a survey showed 87% of riders say they ride with more awareness after doing this course.

ASMA-NZ teaches a standardised approach to the way motorcyclists should conduct themselves to minimise confusion and expedite correct management of the motorcycle accident victim (s) and the entire scene. This includes training on when, where and how to safely remove a helmet - with the understanding of when its appropriate and when its not.

No other course giving comprehensive, motorcycle crash specific, bystander assistance training is available in New Zealand, this course is unique and has been developed since 1996 by professional medically trained, and motorcycle oriented people.

WHY AN ASMA-NZ ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT COURSE?

If you like group riding with your mates, having at least one rider with the group who has attended an ASMA-NZ Course and can act in a timely and efficient manner may one day save your life, reduce the possibility of you having secondary injuries and/or reduce the risk of others at the scene being injured whilst attempting to help.

The programme introduces motorcycle riders to a range of

ASMA-NZ BYSTANDER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM "MORE THAN JUST FIRST AID"

- Introductory offer - Special price of only \$99 for a one day training course
- November 9 and 10 Auckland
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skills and knowledge that has been proven in the USA to result in higher survivability for accident victims and reduced risk to those assisting. These skills are likely to be invaluable in the event of not only motorcycle accidents, but all road events requiring assistance and management.

Organisers of any motorcycle events in NZ: road rides, off-road events, rallies, tours, races etc could benefit from having a number of their team ASMA-NZ trained to minimise the risks associated with injuries that can occur in remote areas where there is limited emergency services. ■ 1777

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Motorcycle Training and Coaching

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"A CRASH COURSE FOR THE MOTORCYCLIST"

More than just First Aid!

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New Zealand