



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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How Hot is Your Car?

TTUHSC Expert Warns About Dangers of High Temperatures and Kids in Cars

With the expected soaring high temperatures, the dangers of children suffering heat-related health injuries including death, also increase. According to the national Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 53% of hot car deaths happen because someone forgets to remove a child from a car.

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center Chief Health Officer and Department of Family and Community Medicine Chair Ron Cook, D.O., said children left in cars can die of heatstroke in minutes.

“Children can suffer from heatstroke signs that would require immediate medical attention. They would first go into shock, have seizures, suffer from weakness, dizziness, nausea and headaches and eventually can lead to death very quickly.”

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), on a 70-degree day, a parked car’s interior can climb to deadly temperatures in less than 30 minutes. Cook said the health consequences on a day when temperatures exceed 100 degrees can escalate*
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- ◁ If someone else is driving your child, always check to make sure he has arrived safely.

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