

Yadetsie N. (Niky) Zaragoza-Rivera

Senior Consultant / Atlanta



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Background

Dr. Zaragoza-Rivera holds a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master's and PhD in Biomedical Engineering, with a focus on Injury Biomechanics. Her areas of expertise include pediatric injury biomechanics, sports medicine, vehicle occupant protections, pedestrian protections, and crash testing.

Dr. Zaragoza-Rivera has over five years of crash safety research experience focused on vehicle occupant protection. Her dissertation topic focused on pediatric protections, specifically in understanding the unique characteristics of the growing cervical spine. Her passion lies in pediatric biomechanics, as such she is a Certified Passenger Safety Technician (CPST) and has worked in child seat research. As a CPST she has served in community outreach programs to better educate caregivers in child seat safety and has helped in the protection of children in and around vehicles.

As a Biomechanical Engineer, Dr. Zaragoza-Rivera has extensive knowledge of human anatomy and tissue mechanics which have allowed her to amass a unique perspective and knowledgebase in injury causation, prevention, and outcomes. Through her studies, Dr. Zaragoza-Rivera has been able to focus on the protection of individuals of varying ages and sizes, from children to the elderly.

Education and Certifications

- Biomedical Engineering, PhD: The Ohio State University
- Biomedical Engineering, MS: The Ohio State University
- Mechanical Engineering (magna cum laude, honors), BS: Universidad de Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
- Child Passenger Safety Technician