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## **Assessing Cyclists' Anger in Traffic – Development of a Cycling Anger Scale**

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*Abstract:* Bicycles as serious means of transportation have gained relevance in recent years. Unfortunately, this development is accompanied by an increasing amount of cyclists involved in traffic accidents. Both trends are pronounced in urban areas. Traffic psychological research shows that especially anger and aggression among road users might lead to maladjusted driving and thereby to a higher accident risk. So far, research on emotions in traffic has been focusing rather on car drivers than on cyclists. To bridge this gap and to suggest a measure assessing cyclists' anger experience in traffic, we developed a Cycling Anger Scale (CAS). On the basis of previous qualitative research a questionnaire was developed assessing cyclists' anger experience in interaction with their cycling environment. N=437 cyclists completed the questionnaire. Results of factor analytical reductions unfolded a final 23 items questionnaire of the CAS (alpha reliability = .81) with four subscales: car interaction, cyclist interaction, pedestrian interaction, and traffic surveillance. The CAS correlated significantly with the Driving Anger Scale for car drivers (DAS;  $r = .71$ ) and trait anger (STAXI;  $r = .37$ ) suggesting a valid and complementary instrument for measuring cycling anger in traffic. Implications for further research and for applied issues will be discussed.