



A Study to Determine the Prevalence of Road Traffic Accident in Children at Selected Hospitals.

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Abstract

Background: Almost 60,000 children death were due to road accidents in India every year; this figure is more than the total child death rate in war-torn Syria, a study titled "Advancing Child Safety in India has found. Citing figures from 2015, Of these three, 41% of children between ages 0 and 18 have died due to road accidents, while 31% due to accidents at home; 19% due to drowning and 6% due to falls in the past decade. The objective of the study was to determine the prevalence of road traffic accident among children. Methods: It is a descriptive study. Data was collected from the hospital records from emergency department and OPD. Children of 1 to 18 years are studied, details of address, area of living (either rural, urban), mode of injury, type of vehicle, type of injury, number of passengers, outcome of injury are collected and entered in prescribed preform. Study period was from June 2016 to Nov 2016. Results: This study result shows that majority of the children belongs to the age of 16-18 yrs (35%) and are of male (66.66%), Many of the children studying in primary education (23.33) and are from rural area (61.66), majority of the type of vehicle used by them are two wheelers (38.33) and majority of them received the primary care and were under medical management and majority of the children were improved their health. Conclusions: To bring the incidence and prevalence rate down, children in the rural area should create awareness regarding the importance of traffic rules and regulations. Local government need to concentrate on implementing traffic rules awareness programme among these category children's.

Keywords: Accidents, Children, Education, Prevalence, Determine.

Introduction

Traffic accidents are responsible for a large number of death and injuries in many countries.¹ According to the Global Road Safety Report, these accidents cause more than 1.3 million deaths a year and about 20–50 million people are injured, which has a huge impact on public health and population development.² The United Nations has proclaimed the period from 2011 to 2020 as Road Safety and, together with the World Health Organization (WHO), convened 178 countries to participate in a joint effort to reduce rates of traffic violation. The main aim is to reduce traffic accidents throughout the world by up to 50%.³

Children between the ages of 6 and 10 are at the beginning of school life and are part of the vulnerability group for being run over, since sufficient pedestrian maturity, caution, and self-defence are expected in crossings.⁴ Therefore, encourage the development of education programme to prevent traffic accidents and the importance of appropriate pedestrian and driver behaviour, should be prioritized.⁵

National centre for statistics and analysis, 2015, Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner shows that the total number of deaths in 2014 was 12 times greater than in 1970 with an average annual compound growth rate of 6%, and the fatality rate in 2014 was 5.2 times greater than in 1970 with an AACGR of 3.9%. In India the proportion of death rate for the age group 15 - 59 is greater than age groups 0-14 years and >59 years⁶.

Statement of the problem

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Objectives: - The aim and objective of the study is to demine the prevalence of road traffic accident among children.

Methodology

Research approach: Descriptive approach was adopted to accomplish the objective of the study.

Research design: - Descriptive survey design was used.

Population: - In this study population consist children.

Sample: - Sample selected for this study are children of 1-18 years admitted in the hospital with accidents with various types of injury.

Sample size: - A total of 60 children admitted in the hospital with accidents with various types of injury.

Sampling technique: - In this study purposive sampling method was used.

Dependent variables: - Prevalence of road traffic accident in children.

Method of data collection

The data collection was collected by the analysis of case details from the hospital records who admitted in emergency department and OPD from period of March 2016-Dec 2016. Injuries were divided in to simple injuries and complicated injuries depending on severity of condition. Children studied are admitted directly after road traffic accident or referred from other hospitals for complicated injuries.

Results

N=60

Demographic variables		Simple	Complicated	Frequency	Percentage(%)
Age	1-5 yrs	4	6	10	16.66
	6-10 yrs	15	6	21	35
	11-15 yrs	5	6	11	18.33
	16-18 yrs	10	8	18	30
Gender	Male	22	18	40	66.66
	Female	12	8	20	33.3
Education	No schooling	1	2	3	5
	Pre-KG	4	3	7	11.66
	Primary	9	5	14	23.33
	Secondary	7	2	9	15
	High-school	7	8	15	25
	PUC	7	4	12	20
Area of living	Urban	14	9	23	38.33
	Rural	22	15	37	61.66
Type of vehicle	Pedestrian	4	3	7	11.66
	Bicycle	12	5	17	28.33
	Two Wheeler	16	7	23	38.33
	Three Wheeler	3	2	5	8.33
	Four wheeler	5	3	8	13.33
No. of passengers	< 2	21	9	30	50
	2-4 members	12	7	19	31.66
	4-6 members	8	3	11	18.33
Primary care	Available	22	12	32	53.33
	Not available	16	10	26	43.33
Intervention	Medical management	28	7	35	58.33
	Surgical Management	20	5	25	41.66
Outcome	Improved	45	7	52	86.66
	Fatal	3	5	8	13.33

Discussion

Road accidents are most common cause of death in children in the age of 16-18 yrs. So the prevention of road accident among children remains high priority for society. So the preventive programmes should be put forth to improve the road safety for children, increased supervision of children by adults and the provision of safe play areas away from the traffic.⁷

Conclusion

Road accidents are a major cause of childhood death up to 18 years of age involving mainly males. To prevent death due to accidents children should be educated about traffic rules. Children's should be away from high-speed highways and proper playgrounds should be developed for their recreation than the road side play. The cyclists should have proper training and should be encouraged to follow traffic rules. Wearing of helmets should be made mandatory even for the cyclists. Smaller children should be supervised properly by parents near the roads. Walking should be encouraged for children than Bicycle for good health and safe journey.

Funding: No funding sources

Conflict of interest: None declared

Ethical approval: Not required

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