

Profile of Road Traffic Accident in Rural Areas of Salem: 4 Year Retrospective Study

S. Sasi Kumar*, Pavanchand Shetty**, Selvam V.***

Abstract

The present study was conducted at Vinyaka Mission Kirupananda Variyar Medical College Hospital, Salem. Hospital records of the road traffic accident cases admitted in our hospital from 2008 to 2012 were studied. In our study we observed that men outnumbered women. Highest incidence of Road Traffic Accident was in the age group of 21-30 years (29.3%) followed by 31-40 years (23.3%). Maximum number of cases occurred during between 6 pm to 12 pm followed by 6pm to 12 pm. Maximum number of cases were seen in spring season followed by summer season. Maximum number of victims were Two Wheeler Riders (126 cases), followed by pedestrians (52 cases). Maximum number of Injuries were Fractures (124 cases) followed by Laceration (116 cases) and Abrasion (110 cases). There was alcohol smell in their breath in 6.6 % of cases.

Keywords: Road traffic accident; Pedestrian; Two wheeler.

Introduction

In developed countries, RTA is the most common cause of death below the age of 50 years. Worldwide, the number of people killed in RTA is almost 1.2 million each year, while the number Injured could be as high as 50.[1] In India, over 80,000 persons dies of Road Traffic Accident annually and over 1.2 million get Injured seriously and about 3,00,000 get disabled permanently.[2] With increasing population, increasing registration of automobiles every month, rampant encroachment of roads and chaotic traffic system has taken rapid strides in road traffic accidents. Road traffic accident constitutes one of the most frequent serious problems in

management for emergency room surgeons. Most of them are preventable with strict implementation of road safety measures. The present study has been carried out regarding the various epidemiological factors, pattern and distribution Injuries and thereby to plan successful measures against it.

Materials and Methods

This is a Retrospective study conducted at Vinyaka Mission Kirupananda Variyar Medical College Hospital, Salem. Hospital records of the road traffic accident cases admitted in our hospital from 2008 to 2012 was studied. Information regarding Patients age, sex, occupation, Type of Injury, Place of accident, and Type of vehicle and Cause of death was taken from the hospital cases sheets. Statistical analysis was done using SPSS software.

Results

In our study we observed that men outnumbered women (Table 1). Highest incidence of Road Traffic Accident was in the age group of 21-30 years (29.3%) followed by 31-40 years

Authors affiliation: *Assistant Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine, Vinayaka Mission Kirupanda Variyar Medical College, Salem - 636308, Tamil Nadu, **Assistant Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine, Kasturba Medical College, Manipal, Karnataka, ***Assistant Professor, Department of Forensic Medicine, Vinayaka Mission Kirupanda Variyar Medical College, Salem-636308, Tamil Nadu, India.

Reprints requests: Dr. S. Sasikumar, MBBS, MD, Assistant Professor, Dept of Forensic Medicine, Vinayaka Mission Kirupanda Variyar Medical College, Salem - 636308, Tamil Nadu, India.

E mail; sasikumarfm@gmail.com