

0638 ROAD FATALITIES IN KANDY, SRI LANKA: 2000 TO 2008

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Objective The aim of this study was to describe the road fatalities occurring in the Kandy Municipality area (KMA) during 2000 to 2008 and reported to Kandy police.

Methodology All randomised controlled trials (RCTs) occurring in the KMA during 2000–2008 in which at least one road user was killed and reported to the Kandy police were included in the study. Traffic police data was used. Data was retrieved

manually and was entered into an Excel data base and was analysed using SPSS statistical software.

Results A total of 140 fatal RTCs were reported during the study period in which 147 road users (97 (66%) were pedestrians) lost their lives. 31 crashes (22.1%) was reported between 6.00 pm and 8.59 pm while 83 crashes (59.2%) were reported during the day time (6.00 am to 5.59 pm). Majority killed were females (68%) and their age ranged from 3 years to 87 years with a mean age of 42 years (SD=22.2 years). The mean age of the males was 43.1 years (SD=23.9 years) which ranged between 4 years and 80 years. Five children (three females and two males) died from these crashes. The bus (40%) was the commonest vehicle responsible for these fatal crashes, while the car and the van (16.4% each) came second.

Discussion and Conclusions This analysis highlights the risks faced by the pedestrians in the KMA. To prevent and control road fatalities in KMA, pedestrians must be made safe.