

protective role, they had not thought that it was important for them as a pillion driver. Some respondents also thought they were not very fashionable and others blamed the hot and humid climate. Most of them thought that if there was a risk of being penalised they will probably wear them.

**Conclusion** Our study is still in the process of data analysis, but it is very clear that the use of helmets especially in females is near to none.

1037 **KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF WOMEN PILLION RIDERS IN TWO OF THE MAJOR CITIES OF PAKISTAN, KARACHI AND LAHORE**

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**Background** Each year nearly 1.2 million people die and millions more are injured or disabled as a result of road traffic injuries. Wearing helmets is the single most effective way of reducing head injuries in motored two wheeled vehicles.

**Objective** The objective of the study is to identify the knowledge, attitudes and practices of women pillion riders in the two major cities of Pakistan, Karachi and Lahore.

**Method** This is a case-control study, in a selected female population. The inclusion criteria were working women and students between the ages of 18 and 45 with 10 years of education. A questionnaire was distributed focusing on awareness of helmet use and reasons why they are not used.

**Results** The results are derived from the sample size of 400. Among the many reasons for not wearing a helmet in the female Pakistani population, it emerged that while most of them were aware of the importance of helmets and their