UNDERSTANDING ROAD TRAFFIC INJURIES AND PREVENTION MEASURES FOR CHILDREN IN RURAL BANGLADESH: A QUALITATIVE STUDY OF COMMUNITY MEMBERS' VIEWS

doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040590d.19

1,2MK Baset, 2E Towner, 1T Noor, 1A Rahman, 1RA Chowdhury, 1M Islam, 1AKMF Rahman. 1Centre for Injury Prevention and Research, Bangladesh (CIPRB); Bangladesh; 2University of the West of England; UK

Introduction Road traffic injury (RTI) was the second leading cause of injury mortality and fourth leading of injury morbidity in Bangladesh. For both mortality and morbidity most the vulnerable age group was 5–9 years.

Objectives To gain an in-depth understanding of people’s perception of causes and their concepts of prevention of childhood RTIs in rural Bangladesh.

Method Focus Group Discussions were conducted with seven groups: mothers and fathers of children aged 5–12 years; adolescents; students and non-school going children aged 6–12 years, teachers and local leaders. Out of 79 participants 40 were female. The study was conducted in Raiganj rural community in Bangladesh.

Results Most respondents considered that children, aged 5–10 years are at risk of road traffic injuries in rural community, with school going boys being particularly vulnerable. Most of the RTIs were reported to occur on school journey particularly returning home. Key sources of risk identified by participants included: risk taking behaviour, poor supervision, lack of road skills, untrained drivers, unauthorised vehicles, and poorly implemented traffic law. Preventive interventions suggested included supervision, training in road skills, law enforcement by government, increase awareness in the community, and improvement of the road infrastructure.

Conclusions Community people could identify the causes of childhood RTIs and suggest ways of preventing them; but knowledge is not translated into preventative actions. Appropriate community based intervention programmes need to be multi-facet and include practical road safety education for children.
Understanding road traffic injuries and prevention measures for children in rural Bangladesh: a qualitative study of community members' views

MK Baset, E Towner, T Noor, A Rahman, RA Chowdhury, M Islam and AKMF Rahman

*Inj Prev* 2012 18: A102
doi: 10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040590d.19

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://injuryprevention.bmj.com/content/18/Suppl_1/A102.2

These include:

**Email alerting service**
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

**Topic Collections**
Articles on similar topics can be found in the following collections

- Epidemiologic studies (842)

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/