

HEALTH SEEKING BEHAVIOUR OF INJURED VICTIMS AMONG COMMUNITY

doi:10.1136/injuryprev-2012-040580g.24

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Background Aim of injury planning is to reduce morbidity and mortality due to injury. Pre-hospital and hospital care play vital role for injury management.

Objectives To study health-seeking behaviour of injured victims.

Methods Retrospective 1-year data was collected from 30 554 populations in relation to health seeking behaviour of injured victims.

Results Transportation used for reaching Medical Center: Auto/Taxi (28.9%), two wheeler (15.4%), bicycle (9.5%) and only 43 cases (1.9%) had used ambulances for transportation of injured victim. Police Control Room vans were effectively used by 32 injured victims out of total 43 cases. Majority of the injured victims (92.8%) administered treatment within 6 h while 71.9% took treatment within 1 h of injury affliction. Injured mostly treated at private clinics (45.4%), government hospitals (24.5%) and government dispensaries (4.1%). Majority of the victims were treated in OPD (47.8%) and 33.3% had taken only 1st aid treatment. Out of total 2232 cases, 5.4% victims were in critical condition, 3.4% hospitalised, 1.3% operated and 0.6% admitted in ICU. Most of the victims resumed work in 2–4 days of injury (19.3%) followed by 5–7 days work loss (14.7%) and 13.4% could not resume normal work for 1–2 months.

Significance Pre-hospital time should be reduced by integration of public transport with health care facilities to reduce severity of injury. Separate trauma care unit could be started in big hospitals. Training must be imparted at medical graduation level. There should be national policy for injury prevention.