

03

## ACUTE NECK INJURIES IN ILORIN

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**Background** Neck injuries are common problems among trauma victims. There is paucity of data on neck injury in Nigeria.

**Objective** To present the characteristics of neck injuries in Ilorin.

**Methods** A prospective study of all patients with neck injury seen at the accident and emergency department of University of Ilorin Teaching Hospital, north-central Nigeria. Questionnaires were used to retrieve information on demographic data and clinical details of patients. All information was entered into an SPSS computer software V.17.0 and result analysed descriptively.

**Results** A total of 22 patients were recruited for the study age range 22–70 years, median age 31.0 years. There were 16 males and 6 females with M : F ratio of 2.7 : 1. The marital status indicated that 17(77.3%) were married and 5(22.7%) were single. The modal age were those in the 2nd and 3rd decade of life (40.9% each). The commonest source of neck injury was road traffic injury in 90.9%. Blunt injury to the neck was the commonest injury encountered in 15 (68.2%), spinal cord was the commonest tissue affected in 15 (68.2%) and majority of the patient presented within 1–6 h (50%) of injury time, Zone II of the neck was commonly affected in 90.9%. about 50% of the patients had non-surgical treatment.

**Significant/Contribution to the Field** Acute neck injury is still a challenge among the road traffic injured patients in Nigeria with economically productive male being mostly affected.