

**INEQUALITIES IN CHILD INJURIES IN NEPAL: FINDINGS OF A COMMUNITY BASED SURVEY IN MAKWANPUR**

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**Background** The lack of data on prevalence, risk factors, costs and consequences of child injuries has led to a lack of awareness and understanding of the problem in low income countries.

**Aim** To investigate whether socio-economic status of families is associated with injury morbidity among children in rural Nepal.

**Results** A community based household survey was conducted in Makwanpur district, Nepal. Families of children with injuries, which required treatment or caused problems for at least 3 days, were interviewed. A total of 2868 households were analysed using Factor Analysis to create SES wealth status and the households were ranked into five quintiles. The relationship of wealth status with socio-economic and demographic characteristics will be presented.

**Findings** Only 6.3% (181) of survey households reported that a child was injured. Injured children disproportionately came from the lowest wealth quintiles. The ratio of lowest to highest quintiles was 1.37 (PCA). OR for the lowest SES quintile (1.27; 95% CI 0.78 to 2.06) when compared to the highest. OR for having 3–4 children per household (2.30; 95% CI 1.62 to 3.27) and for having 5 or more children per household (3.42; 95% CI 2.45 to 5.21) compared to 1–2 children per household; the second lowest and middle quintiles have highest injury risk. Having three or more children/household was found to be a risk factor for child injury. The ORs exhibit complex trends with increased SES levels.

**Significance** There are few examples of studies examining child injury and inequalities in low and middle income countries. There is a need to study inequalities in injury to help guide more effective prevention.