

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# Analysis of pediatric surgical trauma cases in a tertiary care center

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From International Summit on Emergency Medicine and Trauma 2014  
Puducherry, India. 12-16 February 2014

## Objective

To evaluate the pattern of pediatric trauma cases and their subsequent morbidity and mortality.

## Methods

Retrospective review of all cases (less than 12 years) referred to the pediatric surgery unit of a teaching hospital over a period of 26 months (October 2011 to November 2013). Burns, isolated head injuries, ophthalmic injuries, and orthopedic injuries were excluded. The following parameters were assessed: age group, sex, mode of trauma, type of injury, place where the trauma occurred, time interval between injury and presentation and the overall morbidity as well as mortality.

## Results

A total of 194 cases of trauma were assessed excluding 24 cases in whom the details were incomplete. Maximum number of cases (n=84) involved the children in school going age. The male to female ratio was 2.3:1. The majority of the cases (74%) were trivial trauma. Both road (36.5%) and home (35%) were almost equally unsafe in our series. The rest (28.3%) of the injuries occurred in the school/playground. The median time interval in presentation was 3 hours (ranges from 30 min to 7 days). Fourteen patients (7.2%) required operative intervention and among them none had any major complications until last follow up. There was no mortality in the series.

## Limitations

The study is based on hospital data and hence the injury patterns and results cannot be generalized for the entire community.

## Conclusion

The majority of the pediatric traumas are preventable. More coordinated efforts are needed to make our roads and home a safer place. Response time and referral pattern needs to be addressed to decrease the delay in reaching.

Published: 25 July 2014

doi:10.1186/1865-1380-7-S1-P10

Cite this article as: Dhua et al.: Analysis of pediatric surgical trauma cases in a tertiary care center. *International Journal of Emergency Medicine* 2014 **7**(Suppl 1):P10.

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