

## AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF INJURIES AMONG WOMEN IN A TOWN OF WEST BENGAL IN INDIA

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*Modernization created hostile environment for accidental injuries everywhere. Injury causes more than five million deaths per year that makes around 9% of the global mortality. Information available are only record based, which is just tip of iceberg. Causes of injuries are multidimensional and women are more susceptible than others. However, the magnitude and burden of injury among women caused by different factors have not been accounted well, though several studies focused that injury should be consider as a public health problem.*

*This paper aims to find out the prevalence of injuries and to study the different epidemiological factors related to the injuries for women with their different socio-economic background.*

*It was a multicentre study that conducted on 1752 women in the semi-urban area of Nadia, West Bengal. A detailed questionnaire was used to collect demographic data and information related to injuries of all members of each household. SPSS version 20 was used for statistical analysis and prevalence rates were calculated.*

*The prevalence of minor injury in this study was 9.1%. Festival period (63%) and Rainy period (49%) were the most risk period for injury as maximum numbers of injury had occurred. The study data revealed that road traffic accident is one of the important causative factors for major injury among women followed by fall and lifestyle including domestic violence. Domestic violence was one of the major causes for injury among women. Fracture was the most frequently occurring injury among women. Home is the commonest place (48.7%) for minor injury followed by road (19.4%). The prevalence of major injury was 2.1%. The prevalence of minor injury was highest in the age group, 0 - 9 years; as injury had occurred frequently in this age group.*

*Injuries among women should be considered as a special health problem and need a separate attention and care from State. Promotion of safety at work and education for protection at home and safe driving can prevent the major economic loss to the family and community at large.*

*Key Words: Epidemiological study, injury, women, West Bengal.*

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