

SUMMARY.

This study comprise 225 road traffic accident patients admitted consequently to Accident Service Unit at Colombo South General Hospital. Factors associated with road traffic accidents and their treatment cost were studied. Patients were interviewed to get socio demographic factors related to road accidents and they were followed up in the ward to get the information regarding the treatment.

48.44% of all the accidents were in the age group between 21-40 years. Out of all road traffic accident patients males comprised 73.3% while females were only 26.6%.

Peak hour of accidents(34%) took place between 3pm and 6pm. Pedestrians ranked first (47.55%) among road users in the road accidents and they were at fault in 31.8% instances due to lack of care. Commonest sites of injury were seen as head and neck, and lower limbs.

Of the total treatment cost 30.11% were on Drugs and Dressings while Accident Service staff salary accounted for 25.85%. The highest cost was treating pedestrian victims. Treating fracture Tibia/ Fibula ranked first (Rs.9363/=) among other types of fractures.

Average cost for a patient per day is Rs. 290.00 and average total cost for a month treating all road traffic accident patients were Rs. 119,480/=.