ABSTRACT

This descriptive study is being conducted on factors related to motorcycle accidents in Bangkok City, Thailand.

The study sample of 190 patients of motorcycle accidents were purposely selected from three hospitals between 1st and 31st of January 2002. The target population in this study was riders of motorcycles, who had had accidents and were being treated as in-patients or outpatients at the study sites. The data was collected from Lerdsin Hospital, Police General Hospital and Taksin Hospital in Bangkok through a structured questionnaire, and was analyzed for percentage and frequency distribution of the respondents. A Chi-square test was also performed to test the association between dependent and independent variables of interest.

The results of the study revealed that young people aged between 21-30 years with low educational background and with average income 5,000-10,000 Baht income/month were more prone to motorcycle accidents compared to other groups. Regarding personal risk factors, the results of the study revealed that low driving experience and the purpose of trip (work related) were directly associated but helmet use had an inverse significant association with the occurrence of motorcycle accident at P-value (P=0.032), (P=0.026), (P=0.046) respectively. The results also showed that in majority (60.5%) of cases especially in single vehicle collision the rider himself was at fault to cause the accident.

This study found that regular helmet user, fast young age riders with less driving experience were directly related to the occurrence of motorcycle accidents.