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### Awareness regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among adolescents

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#### Abstract

Road traffic crashes are a routine occurrence on roads throughout the world. Globally, 1.2 million people die and another 20-50 million sustain injuries from road accidents every year. Road accidents are 9 leading cause of deaths and are estimated to become the 5 leading cause of death by 2020. Major aims of this study was to assess knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accidents and implementation of awareness programme regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among adolescents boys of selected Govt. school at Kawardha Dist, Chhattisgarh. This study was observational based and design was prospective design, setting was Govt. High school Karpatri, Kwardha. 74 adolescents were participated in this study, simple random sampling technique we used. Result was 38% adolescents had some knowledge regarding road traffic safety measures through professional persons and 53% had knowledge through media. 60% adolescents did not have driving license. No body adolescents did not go driving school to learn to drive. 40% of adolescents had average knowledge, 30% had poor knowledge, and 30% had good knowledge score.

**Keywords:** Awareness, road traffic accidents, adolescents, prevention etc.

#### Introduction

##### Background and Need of the study

Road traffic crashes are a routine occurrence on roads throughout the world. Thousands of people lose their lives on the roads every day. Many millions more are left with disabilities or emotional scars that they will carry for the rest of their lives. Children and young adults are among the most vulnerable.

Road traffic accident means an accident which occurred or originated on a way or street open to public traffic; resulted in one or more persons being killed or injured, and at least one moving vehicle was involved <sup>[1]</sup>.

A road traffic accident (RTA) is any injury due to crashes originating from, terminating with or involving a vehicle partially or fully on a public road. It is projected that road traffic injuries will move up to the third position by the year 2020 among leading causes of the global disease burden. They are considerable economic losses to victims, their families, and to countries as a whole <sup>[2]</sup>.

In the WHO South- East Asia Region, of the 80 400 people under 25 years of age who die each year from road traffic accidents, the majority are aged between 15 and 24 years, which may be a reflection of the high use of two-wheeled vehicles among this age group in this region <sup>[3]</sup>.

Globally, 1.2 million people die and another 20-50 million sustain injuries from road accidents every year. Road accidents are 9 leading cause of deaths and are estimated to become the 5 leading cause of death by 2020 <sup>[4]</sup>.

The main aim of this study was to develop awareness regarding prevention and management of road traffic accidents among high school going children so they will change their behaviour and adopt in their future life. Behaviour change communication is a major part of this study.

#### Objectives

- To assess the knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among Adolescents boys of selected Govt. school at Kawardha Dist.
- To associate the knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among Adolescents boys of selected Govt. school at Kawardha Dist. and selected demographic variables.

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- To implement the road safety measurements awareness programmes regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among adolescents boys of selected Govt. school at Kawardha Dist.

**Hypothesis**

- RH<sub>1</sub> There is significant association with knowledge regarding prevention of road traffic accidents among adolescents boys of selected Govt. school at Kawardha Dist. and selected demographic variables at  $p \leq 0.05$  level.

**Research Methodology**

**Research Study:** observational study

**Research Design:** prospective research design.

**Setting:** Govt. high school Karpatri, Kawardha Dist, C.G.

**Population:** Adolescents under class 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Sample and Sample Size:** 74 adolescents under class one to five standards were available at the time of health assessment.

**Sampling Technique:** The sample was selected through probability simple random sampling technique.

**Tool:** The tool used for data collection in our research study was organized in two sections-

**Section A:** Socio-demographic variables – age, education standard, residential area, father’s education, mother’s education, monthly income, dietary pattern, education standards (class).

**Section B:** structured school health assessment Performa. Total 40 items included. Level of knowledge assessed by used scoring criteria was poor, average, and good.

**Reliability and Validity**

Structured school health Performa and awareness programme evaluated by experts in community health Nursing and district hospital. Ethical consideration was fulfilled by seeking the written permission from the Principal of Govt. Higher Secondary School (Swami Karpatri Ji Higher Secondary School,) Kawardha Dist. C.G. on next day performed the assessment of the previous knowledge of the adolescents on the road safety. On same day performed skit on cause of road traffic accident and safety measures and delivered video assisted teaching programme regarding preventive measures of road traffic accident by LCD projector.

**Results and Discussion**

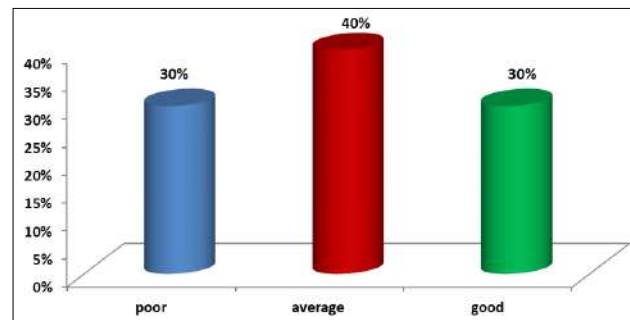
There were 48% 16-17 years and 23% 15-16 years of age group, 66% of adolescents were belong in rural area, 78% were 11<sup>th</sup> standard. 41% of adolescent’s father and 30% mothers educated up to primary to middle class. 47% adolescents their monthly income 5000 to 10,000. 82% adolescent’s parents their occupation was laborer and daily wage, 57% adolescents were belong in joint family and 38% adolescents had some knowledge regarding road traffic safety measures through professional persons and 53% had knowledge through media. 60% adolescents did not have

driving license. No body adolescents did not go driving school to learn to drive. 40% of adolescents had average knowledge, 30% had poor knowledge, and 30% had good knowledge score.

**Table 1:** One-Sample statistics

	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean
Knowledge	74	2.5000	.50341	.05852

The road safety education intends to provide awareness and impart education regarding the traffic rules to adolescents. The purpose of the Prevention of Road Safety Awareness Programme for Adolescents Boys in Higher Secondary school was to decrease road traffic accidents. At the end, we have terminated the programme by thanking the participants for their cooperation and participation.



**Fig 1:** Knowledge about RTA

**Conclusion**

The health sector is an important partner in the process of prevention and control of RTA. The role of health sector is to provide appropriate pre hospital and hospital care and rehabilitation for victims, improve data collection, contribute to policies, develop prevention activities, conduct advocacy, and contribute to the implementation and evaluation of interventions. Road safety is a shared responsibility, reducing the risk of accidents that road traffic systems requires commitment and informed decision making by Govt., industry, NGOs. There are many interventions that can save lives, political will and commitment at central, state, and local govt. level are essential and without them little can be achieved.

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