

Assessing Knowledge and Compliance of Motor Riders on Road Safety Regulations in Hohoe Municipality of Ghana: A Cross-Sectional Quantitative Study

Authors : Matthew Venunye Fianu, Jerry Fiave, Ebenezer Kye-Mensah, Dacosta Aboagye, Felix Osei-Sarpong

Abstract : Introduction: Road traffic accidents involving motorbikes are a priority public health concern in Ghana. While there are local initiatives to address this public health challenge, little is known about motor riders' knowledge and compliance with road safety regulations (RSR) and their association with RTAs. The aim of this study was, therefore, to assess motorbike riders' knowledge and compliance with RSRs. Methodology: Motorbike riders in Hohoe Municipality were randomly sampled in a cross-sectional study in June 2022. Data were collected from 237 riders using a questionnaire designed in Kobocollect and administered by ten research assistants. A score of 70% or less is considered low for knowledge and compliance. The data were exported into Excel and imported into STATA 17 for analysis. A chi-square test was performed to generate descriptive and inferential statistics to establish the association between independent and dependent variables. Results: All 237 respondents were male, and each of them completed the questionnaire representing a 100% response rate. Participants who had knowledge about speed limit at different segments of the road were 59(24.9%), the use of helmet were 124 (52.3%), and alcohol use were 152 (64.1%). Participants who complied with regulations on speed limits, helmet use, and alcohol use were 108 (45.6%), 179(75.5%), and 168(70.8%), respectively. Riders who had at least junior high school education were 2.43 times more likely to adhere to RSR [cOR =2.43(95%CI= 1.15-6.33) p= 0.023] than those who had less education. Similarly, riders who had high knowledge about RSR were 2.07 times more likely to comply with RSR than those who had less knowledge [AOR= 2.07 (95% CI= 0.34-0.97), p=0.038]. Conclusion: Motor riders in the Hohoe Municipality had low knowledge as well as low compliance with road safety regulations. This could be a contributor to road traffic accidents. It is therefore recommended that road safety regulatory authorities and relevant stakeholders enhance the enforcement of RSR. There should also be country-specific efforts to increase awareness among all motor riders, especially those with less than junior high school education.

Keywords : compliance, motor riders, road safety regulations, road traffic accident

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