

Injury Patterns and Outcomes in Alcohol Intoxicated Trauma Patients Admitted at Level I Apex Trauma Centre of a Developing Nation

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Abstract : Objective: Alcohol is a leading risk factor associated with the disability and death due to RTI. Present study aims to demonstrate the demographic profile, injury pattern, physiological parameters of victims of trauma following alcohol consumption arriving in the emergency department (ED) and mortality in alcohol intoxicated trauma patients admitted to Apex Trauma Center in Delhi. Design and Methods: Present study was performed in randomly selected 182 alcohol breath analyzer tested RTI patients from the emergency department of Jai Prakash Narayan Apex Trauma Center (JPNATC), All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi for over a period of 3 months started from September 2013 to November 2013. Results: A total 182 RTI patients with blunt injury were selected between 30-40 years of age and equally distributed to male and female group. Of these, 93 (51%) were alcohol negative and 89 (49%) were alcohol positive. In 89 alcohol positive patients, 47 (53%) had Artificial Airway as compared to 17 (18%), ($p < 0.001$) in the other group. The Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score was lower ($p < 0.001$) and higher Injury Severity Score (ISS) was observed in alcohol positive group as compared to other group ($p < 0.03$). Increased number of patients (58%) were admitted to Intensive Care Unit (ICU), in alcohol positive group ($p < 0.001$) and they were in ICU for longer time compare to other group ($p < 0.001$). The alcohol positive patients were on ventilator support for longer duration as compared to non-alcoholic group ($p < 0.001$). Mortality rate was higher in alcohol intoxicated patients as compared to non-alcoholic RTI patients, however, the difference was not statistically significant. Conclusion: This study revealed that GCS, mean ISS, ICU stay, ventilation time etc. might have considerable impact on mortality in alcohol intoxicated patients as compared to non-alcoholic group.

Keywords : road traffic injuries, alcohol, trauma, emergency department

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