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**“STUDY ON PATTERN OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY CASES AT  
CASUALTY OF A TERTIARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE.  
-A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY”**

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**by**

**REGISTRATION NUMBER-BF 0111002**

**Dissertation**

**Submitted to the**

**KLE UNIVERSITY, Belgaum, Karnataka,**

**In partial fulfillment**

**of the requirements for the degree of**

**M.D. (DOCTOR OF MEDICINE)**

**in**

**FORENSIC MEDICINE & TOXICOLOGY**

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**DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC MEDICINE & TOXICOLOGY  
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU MEDICAL COLLEGE**

**BELGAUM – 590010**

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**ENDORSEMENT BY THE HEAD OF DEPARTMENT,  
PRINCIPAL OF THE INSTITUTION**

This is to certify that the dissertation entitled “**STUDY ON PATTERN OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY CASES AT CASUALTY OF A TERTIARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE -A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY**” is a bonafide research work done by **THE CANDIDATE REG.NO. BF0111002.**

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## **LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED**

IPC: Indian Penal Code

WHO: World Health Organisation

LMIC: Low and Middle Income Countries

CDC: Centre for Disease Control

MVA: Motor Vehicle Accidents

UI: Unintentional Injuries

US: United States

NCRB: National Crime Records Bureau

BISP: Bengaluru Injury Surveillance Programme

KMC: Kasturba Medical College

BBMP: Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike

BRSIPP: Bangalore Road Safety and Injury Prevention Programme

RTI: Road Traffic Injuries

KLEs : Karnataka Lingayat Education Society

LMV: Light Motor Vehicle

HMV: Heavy Motor Vehicle

UAE: United Arab Emirates

## **ABSTRACT**

### **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES:**

Unintentional injuries are the largest source of premature morbidity and mortality and the leading cause of death. They are a major burden to the society all over the world in terms of both mortality and morbidity. Transportation is the largest source of these injuries. Other major causes involve fall from height, thermal injuries, drowning, and poisonings. The frequency, severity, potential for death and disability, and costs of these injuries, together with the high success potential of prevention strategies, make unintentional injury prevention a key public health goal to improve health in the future. Hence this study was aimed and undertaken to know the pattern of unintentional injuries, their morbidity and mortality burden in our set up.

### **METHODS:**

The present cross sectional study was conducted at the casualty of our tertiary care centre from October 2011 to march 2012. A total of 753 cases of unintentional injuries were studied using a pretested proforma and the results analyzed.

### **RESULTS:**

Out of 753 cases, maximum number of victims were in the age group of 20-39 years (51.92%) and 80.9% were males. The total mortality rate was 12%, with M: F= 4:1. Transportation injuries constituted the maximum number of cases (80.9%), with majority of the victims being two-wheeler rider and pillion rider (58.78%); most of them occurring due to hit by another vehicle (60.9%); with the common offending agent being heavy motor vehicle (39.4%); most common injury being skeletal injury (33.8%) and with a mortality rate of 8.5%. Most of the fall from height cases were seen in outside home (65%) involving stairs, balcony, and poles (67%); most common injuries being head injury (68.4%) and with a mortality rate of 15.8%. Majority of the

thermal injuries were involving dry burns (59.45%); involving body surface area of 26-75% (69%); and a mortality rate of 40.5%. Unintentional poisoning and drowning / suffocation were least and all the cases were seen in children.

#### **CONCLUSION AND INTERPRETATION:**

Various preventive measures can be employed to minimize the burden of unintentional injury cases. The results of the present study is useful in interpreting the exact burden of mortality and morbidity of the unintentional injuries, their patterns, types, causative agents, and a strategic plan can be made accordingly for the benefit of the community and people at large.

**KEYWORDS:** Unintentional injuries, transportation, thermal injuries, poisoning, fall from height.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Injury is probably the most under recognized major public health problem India is facing today. Injuries have always been part of human existence and they comprise a critical health problem throughout the world. In spite of safety legislation and attempt to raise public awareness of the injuries, the rate of motor vehicle crashes, fall from height, suicide, drowning, violence etc. still remains high.

Due to extensive research that has been done within the field of injury prevention and control, it has been proven that injuries are similar to diseases, in that injuries are not accidents, do not occur at random, and have identified risk and protective factors making them preventable.

Although modern medicine is able to withstand many of the dangerous complications, the injuries that occur without anyone's intentions i.e, unintentional injuries like transportation injuries, fall from height, thermal injuries, unintentional poisoning and drowning/ suffocation represents serious risk to health, reducing work efficiency and costing money.

Injury has been defined as any harm whatever illegally caused to any person in body, mind, reputation or property, vide sec.44 IPC<sup>1</sup>. According to WHO, an injury is defined as a 'body lesion at the organic level resulting from acute exposure to energy (mechanical, thermal, electrical, chemical or radiant) interacting with the body in amounts or rates that exceed the threshold of psychological tolerance'<sup>2</sup>.

The term "unintentional injury" is preferred to "accidents" as the latter implies events are inevitable and unavoidable whereas a high proportion of these incidents are now regarded as being preventable. Unintentional injuries can occur in any age group, but children and the elderly are more vulnerable.

The growth of the motor vehicle industry, liberalized economic policies of successive governments, aggressive media promotion, increasing purchasing power of people, easy availability of loans and poor public transport systems have possibly contributed to increasing motorization and a changing transportation scenario in India<sup>3</sup>.

Approximately 90% of the global injury-related deaths occur in low and middle income countries such as India where these issues are not recognized as a major public health issue by the local authorities because of poor availability of robust data on the injury burden, thereby inhibiting the development of effective preventive strategies<sup>4</sup>.

Keeping this in mind the study was undertaken at the casualty of our tertiary care center. Data available in our study regarding the pattern of unintentional injury cases are mostly from the northern parts of Karnataka. This study presents evidence that unintentional injuries pose a significant health burden. Hence, the results of the present study could be useful in interpreting the types and patterns of unintentional injury cases and then strategic planning can be made accordingly for the benefit of the community at large. Comprehensive approaches combining policy implementation, environmental changes, as well as health education are needed in order for effective prevention of injuries.

Many countries, especially those with poorly developed public health infrastructures, have not prioritized injury prevention as a public health problem. Basic research to identify the burden of injuries, their causes, and consequences is critically needed in order to establish the evidence base, necessary for effective intervention and prevention programs.

### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:**

1. To study the prevalence and pattern of unintentional injury cases coming to the casualty of a tertiary health care centre.
2. To know the relation between patterns of unintentional injuries and the influencing factors.
3. To know the burden of morbidity and mortality of unintentional injuries in our set up.

**REVIEW OF LITERATURE:**

***Definition and classification of injury:***

Law of India has defined Injury as any harm whatever illegally caused to any person in body, mind, reputation or property, vide sec.44 IPC, and has defined the term ‘hurt’ as whoever causes bodily pain, disease or infirmity to any person, vide sec. 319 IPC. To a medical man, injury means ‘breach of continuity of any tissue in the body’<sup>1</sup>.

According to WHO, an injury is defined as a ‘body lesion at the organic level resulting from acute exposure to energy (mechanical, thermal, electrical, chemical or radiant) interacting with the body in amounts or rates that exceed the threshold of psychological tolerance’<sup>2</sup>.

***Definition and classification of unintentional injury:***

According to the *International statistical Classification of Diseases*, unintentional injuries are classified by cause based on the type of kinetic, chemical, or other type of energy that leads to the injury<sup>5</sup>. Causes of unintentional injuries include transportation (land, air, and water); unintentional falls; unintentional discharge of a firearm or weapon; drowning; fire, smoke, and burns; poisoning; and other and unclassified unintentional causes<sup>6</sup>.

Historically, injuries have always been referred to as accidents and the term “accident” implies the inevitable nature of the event and connotes that nothing can be done about it. ‘Injury’ by definition means that there is a body lesion due to an

external cause, either intentional or unintentional, resulting from a sudden exposure to energy (mechanical, electrical, thermal, chemical or radiant) generated by agent - host and environmental interaction. When this generated energy is transferred and exceeds the physiological tolerance of an individual it leads to tissue damage. Apart from this, injury can also occur due to the sudden withdrawal of a vital requirement of the body like oxygen in case of drowning, asphyxiation etc. In short, injury is the damage caused to the body due to a rapid and sudden exposure to energy beyond his / her tolerance levels. It is an acute event, occurs in varying severities and with chances of repeated occurrence. Prevention of injuries is possible by acting on one or all three areas of this interaction and thus can be modified, predicted, and prevented<sup>7</sup>.

WHO categorized the Injuries in a number of ways. However, for most analysis purposes and for identifying intervention opportunities, it is especially useful to categorize injuries according to whether or not they were deliberately inflicted and by whom, based on intent of injury occurrence. Commonly used categories are<sup>4</sup>:

- Unintentional
- Intentional (i.e. deliberate)
- Undetermined intent.

Unintentional injuries are also referred to as accidental injuries though not really accidental in nature, while intentional injuries are self-inflicted or caused by others. The latter include suicides, homicides, injuries due to violence against women, children and elderly, those due to wars, riots and conflicts, etc., A second common method of classifying injuries is according to the mechanism which caused the injury, like road traffic crashes, poisoning, falls, fires/burns, drowning, fall of external objects

and others. A third method of classifying injuries is according to place of occurrence like road injuries, home injuries, sports injuries and work related injuries based on place of occurrence of injury<sup>7</sup>.

The fourth method is based on anatomical types and location of injuries depending on body organs injured like head injuries, facial injuries, injury to long bones etc. The nature and type of injuries are documented as fractures, contusions and haemorrhages for care and management. International Statistical Classification of Diseases<sup>8</sup> and International Classification of External Causes of Injuries<sup>9</sup> are commonly used for systematic and scientific classification of injuries all over the world. A particular classification chosen is primarily determined by the purpose of a (or more) programme(s), research focus and availability of resources. The term accident has been banned by the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (National Highway Traffic safety Administration, 1997), as well as the British Medical Journal (Davis & Pless, 2001)<sup>7</sup>.

### ***Studies on unintentional injuries:***

According to the data of the National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) from 1992 to 1999<sup>10</sup>, which was used to calculate average annual rates for unintentional injury deaths for the United States; An average of 18,048 unintentional injury deaths occurred annually in the United States (6.83 deaths per 100,000). Unintentional injury deaths varied by age and gender, with males having higher rates of death than females (8.78 vs 4.97 per 100,000), and older adults ( $\geq 70$  years) having higher rates than all other age groups. Falls (2.25 per 100,000), poisoning (1.83 per 100,000), and fire/burn injuries (1.29 per 100,000) were also the leading causes of unintentional injury death.

Death rates of fall were highest for older adults, poisoning deaths were highest among middle-aged adults, and fire/burn death rates were highest among children. Inhalation/suffocation and drowning deaths were important injury issues for young children<sup>10</sup>.

As per a study in Canada between 1995-96<sup>11</sup>, where they conducted the case-control study using records from 5 pediatric hospital emergency departments for the 2-year period; the 351 case subjects were children aged 7 years and less who presented with injuries from falls, burns or scalds, ingestions or choking. The distribution of injuries was as follows: falls (50.4%), burns (22.8%), poisonings (16.0%) and chokings (10.8%). Of the 177 falls, 104 (58.8%) involved stairs, 7 (4.0%) involved baby walkers, 14 (7.9%) were from changing tables, and 1 (0.6%) was through an open window; the cause was not specified for 51 (28.8%). Of the 80 burn injuries, 8 were due to exposure to hot tap water (10.0%), 27 to hot liquids or solids (33.7%), 22 to hot surfaces (27.5%) and 2 to dwelling fires (2.5%); the cause was not specified for 21 (26.3%). Of the 56 poisonings, 25 (44.6%) were due to medications and 10 to household chemicals (17.9%); for 21 (37.5%) the cause was not specified. Of the 38 choking episodes, 11 (28.9%) involved coins and 27 (71.1%) had no cause specified<sup>11</sup>.

The data of some of the studies in United States during the period 2000 – 2006<sup>12</sup> on unintentional injuries showed that, the leading cause of morbidity and mortality among children is Unintentional injuries. Data used in the report were obtained from two sources. Death data from 2000 – 2005 came from the National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics System, annual

mortality files<sup>12</sup>. Nonfatal data from 2001 – 2006 came from the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System - All injury Program (NEISS-AIP)<sup>13</sup>.

Of the 73,052 deaths among children 0 to 19 years of age during 2000-2005<sup>13</sup>, 40,374 deaths (56%) occurred among those 15 to 19 years, followed by 10,203 (14%) among those 1 to 4 years of age. The death rate for unintentional injury was 15.0 per 100,000 children. The rate was highest among those 15 to 19 years (33.1 per 100,000) followed by those less than 1, 1 to 4, 10 to 14, respectively, and lowest among those 5 to 9 years. Males had higher death rates compared to females in all age groups. The overall death rate among males 0 to 19 years was 19.3 per 100,000 and among females 10.4 per 100,000. When examining rates by sex and age group, the death rate was highest among males 15 to 19 years (rate 45.1 per 100,000). Death rates differed by cause, with the highest rates related to injuries due to transportation (9.8 per 100,000) and the lowest rates related to falls (0.2 per 100,000). A large proportion of these deaths were likely motor vehicle occupant deaths. When transportation-related injuries were examined by road user type, occupants of motor vehicles that were in crashes represented the highest death rate (death rate: 4.6 per 100,000). The death rate for transportation-related injuries was highest among those 15 years and older while the death rate for suffocation was dramatically lower after the first year of life. Injury death rates from fires or burns and drowning both peaked among children 1 to 4 years of age. Unintentional poisoning death rates peaked among the 15 to 19 year olds. Transportation-related injuries among 15 to 19 were more than 5 times the rate of those 10 to 14<sup>13</sup>.

According to the World Health Organization analysis in 2004<sup>5</sup>, unintentional injuries are responsible for over 3.9 million deaths, with over 90% of those occurring in low- and middle-income countries (LMIC)<sup>5</sup>.

Five of the 15 leading causes of death in persons 15–29 years of age are unintentional injury related, including road traffic injuries, drowning, burns, poisoning, and falls. Up to 50% of young children with unintentional injuries that present to a hospital were left with some form of disability. The major unintentional injury-related causes of disability-adjusted life-years lost annually include road traffic injuries (17.5%) and falls (12.2%)<sup>14</sup>.

The study presents the global burden of unintentional injuries based on year 2004 data from the World Health Organization Global Burden of Disease Study<sup>15</sup> estimates, highlighting differences in high- versus low- and middle-income countries. Overall, road traffic injuries made the largest proportion of unintentional injury deaths (33%) followed by falls (11%) and drowning (10%). With an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads, as well as vehicular speed, and as the mix of vehicles on roadways becomes more complex over time, the burden of road traffic injuries will likely increase. Projections by the World Health Organization indicate that, while road traffic injuries were the ninth leading cause of death resulting in 2.2% of deaths in 2004, by 2030 they will be the fifth leading cause of death resulting in 3.6% of global deaths<sup>15</sup>.

Injury causes also demonstrated some regional patterns; like fire burns accounted for a higher proportion (14%) of unintentional injuries in the Southeast

Asian region, while drowning represented a proportionally higher problem (16%) in the Western Pacific region<sup>5</sup>.

Deaths represent only the proverbial “tip of the iceberg” of the true burden of unintentional injuries; many injury events are not fatal but do result in significant sequelae that affect people throughout their lives. The rates for disability-adjusted life-years are highest in regions with many developing countries: Southeast Asia (3,065 per 100,000), Eastern-Mediterranean (2,825 per 100,000), and Africa (2,743 per 100,000). Notably, the rate for years lived with disability is highest in the Eastern Mediterranean region (1,194 per 100,000) despite its small population and relatively higher proportion of higher income countries, indicative of the nonfatal impact of injuries<sup>5</sup>.

Road traffic injuries account for approximately one-third of unintentional injury disability-adjusted life-years in all regions. Poisoning was most significant in the European region (15% of disability-adjusted life-years vs.  $\leq 6\%$  in other regions), and drowning stood out in the Western Pacific region (14% of disability-adjusted life-years vs.  $\leq 9\%$  in other regions), which has countries like China and Vietnam with deltas, rivers, and many other water bodies<sup>5</sup>.

The vast majority, over 3.5 million or 91%, of unintentional injury deaths occurred in people in LMIC. When standardized per 100,000 population and compared with high-income countries, the death rate was nearly double in LMIC (65 vs. 35 per 100,000), and the rate for disability-adjusted life-years is more than triple in LMIC (2,398 vs. 774 per 100,000). This means that more people are injured, they suffer more nonfatal health outcomes, and more die as a result of injuries in LMIC<sup>5</sup>.

An analysis of the injury burden in children less than 5 years of age in South Asia<sup>16</sup> showed a mortality rate of 33.9–850.7 deaths per 100,000 children. The overall incidence of injuries derived from community-based studies in this region was 8,870 cases per 100,000 children per year<sup>16</sup>.

When breaking down road traffic injuries by user group, 60% of traffic fatalities occur in motorized 4-wheeled cars in high-income countries compared with 34% in low-income countries. Pedestrians accounted for an average of 45% of road traffic fatalities in low-income compared with 18% in high-income countries<sup>17</sup>.

With the exception of fire-related deaths, the number of each cause-specific unintentional injury death was higher in males. While males have higher death and disability-adjusted life-years rates for most injury types, studies have shown that females are at higher risk of fire-related deaths than are males. Burns ranked seventh in the World Health Organization's top 10 causes of deaths and disability-adjusted life-years for women 15–44 years of age<sup>5</sup>.

As per a study conducted by Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment in the year 2003<sup>18</sup>, out of the injury deaths in Colorado, approximately 60 percent are from unintentional causes. They were the leading cause of death for people aged 1-44. Motor vehicle traffic crashes account for 45 percent of all unintentional injury deaths in Colorado, killing more than 600 Coloradoans each year. Falls were the leading cause of injury death among Colorado adults over age 75, with 60% of the falls occurring in the home<sup>18</sup>.

As per CDC statistics of America in 2002-03<sup>19</sup>, Unintentional injuries were a leading cause of death for Americans of all ages regardless of gender, race or

economic status. More than 106,000 people died in 2002 from unintentional injuries. Residential fires accounted for 76% of fire-related injuries and 79% of fire-related deaths in 2002; in this year alone, more than 401,000 home fires in the United States claimed the lives of 2,670 people and injured another 14,050. In 2003, more than 1.8 million seniors were treated in emergency departments for fall-related injuries and 421,000 were hospitalized (CDC 2004)<sup>19</sup>.

As per national adolescent health information center, San Francisco in 2004<sup>20</sup>, Unintentional injuries accounted for the greatest number of deaths in adolescent and young adult. Though the unintentional injury mortality rate for this age group has decreased during the past two decades, from 43.2/100,000 in 1981 to 27.0/100,000 in 2004, among young people aged between 10-24 16,989 died as a result of unintentional injuries, representing 45.5% of all deaths in this age group. Other unintentional injuries included poisoning, drowning, fires/burns, and falls. Male adolescents and young adults had a higher unintentional injury (UI) mortality rate than females. This disparity increased with age: males aged 10-14 were 1.7 times as likely to die as same-age females in 2004; among age 20-24, this figure was 3.2. Among 10-24 year-olds, rates are highest for males ages 18-24. After young adulthood, UI mortality rates decreased throughout the lifespan until age 70, when they peaked again. In 2004, motor vehicle accidents (MVAs) accounted for 31.3% of all mortality and a majority of UI mortality among adolescents and young adults<sup>20</sup>.

Another study which was based on the evaluation of a large national database of unintentional oral ingestion poisonings involving children aged <5 years treated in US hospital emergency departments during 2004 and 2005<sup>21</sup>, showed that there was a

significant increase in the relative likelihood of oral drug poisonings beginning at age 20-23 months that was consistent with the expected onset of complicated imitative behaviors in children. Based upon their analysis, imitative behavior have contributed to about 17,300 child poisonings treated annually in the emergency department, accounting for about 20% of poisonings involving children aged <5 years and 30% of the poisoning injuries involving children aged 20-59 months. They concluded that comprehensive efforts to prevent poisoning was needed to address the problem of imitative behavior in children<sup>21</sup>.

A study from South Africa<sup>22</sup> showed that injuries accounted for 14.3% of all disability-adjusted life-years lost in the country in the year 2000.

A study of stove burn injuries in South Africa<sup>23</sup> showed that women had higher rates of hospital admissions (45%) and a higher mortality rate (22%) than did men.

A review of over 7,200 deaths from the United Arab Emirates in children aged less than 15 years showed that injuries comprised nearly 30% of all deaths, with road traffic injuries being responsible for 68.3% of injury-associated deaths<sup>24</sup>.

A study based on the National Health Survey of Pakistan reported an overall annual incidence of unintentional injuries in children less than 5 years of age of 47.8 per 100,000 (95% confidence Interval: 36.6, 59.0), totaling approximately 1.1 million unintentional injuries per year<sup>25</sup>.

A pilot surveillance study in children less than 11 years of age in Bangladesh, Colombia, Egypt, and Pakistan of 1,559 injured children found that the majority of

injuries (56%) were from falls, followed by road traffic injuries (22%) and then burns (13%)<sup>26</sup>.

### ***Studies in India:***

In a study conducted in India during 2001- 2003<sup>27</sup>, Unintentional injuries were identified and contributed 7% to all causes mortality. Proportionate mortality was highest in the age group of 70+ years, with more than 60% injury deaths due to falls. The highest proportions of drowning deaths were in under 5 years (14%), the highest proportion of road traffic deaths were in the age group of 30–39 years (10%) of all unintentional deaths. Proportionate mortality due to unintentional injury in males (8%) was higher than in females (5%). Road traffic injuries (29%), falls (26%) and drowning (11%) were the leading causes of unintentional injury mortality<sup>27</sup>.

During 2003–2004 in Andhra Pradesh a state of India<sup>4</sup>, a morbidity survey in adults was carried out by using stratified random sampling in 20 villages. Injury was the second leading cause of death for all ages, responsible for 13% of all deaths. The leading causes of fatal injury were falls (20%), and road traffic crashes (13%). Non-fatal injury was reported by 6.7% of survey participants, with the leading causes of injury being falls (38%), road traffic crashes (25%). Falls were more common in women, with most (72.3%) attributable to slipping and tripping. Road traffic injuries were sustained mainly by men and were primarily the result of motorcycle crashes (48.8%)<sup>4</sup>.

As per another study in 2006<sup>28</sup>, where they calculated mortality rates and years of life lost because of unintentional injuries using community based information

obtained prospectively over a 7-year period, from 1998 to 2004, among a rural and peri-urban population of 108,000 in South India; the total mortality rate for unintentional injuries was 54.9 per 100,000 population. Of all deaths in the population 18.9% were attributable to unintentional injuries. The high burden was particularly notable in the 15-29 age group, where up to 70% of years of life lost were due to unintentional injury. The burden of unintentional injuries reported in this study was significantly higher than the figures reflected in available reports for India and was likely due to the under reporting in routine mortality statistics<sup>28</sup>.

As per a study conducted in Pune city in India, in 2009<sup>29</sup>, which was done to evaluate the causes of unintentional injuries, nearly 28% of the households did not have a separate kitchen, 37.5% cooked at the ground level, 33.5% used a kerosene pressure stove, 12% used unprotected open fire as a source of warmth in winter, and 34.5% stored inflammable substances at home. Ninety one percent of the households reported storing poisonous chemicals in places that could not be locked. In 68.3% of the households with children below five years, these chemicals were kept in places accessible to children. Nearly 21% of the individuals, who could swim, did so in unsafe places and 25.2% of them were not trained in swimming. In 35.5% of the households, children used streets as playgrounds. Among all two-wheeled vehicle riders, 35.6% reported not having a helmet and 57.7% of those who had a helmet did not use it regularly. Socioeconomic status was strongly associated with the unsafe behaviors related to burns, drowning, and road traffic injuries<sup>29</sup>.

As per NCRB report 2007<sup>30</sup>, there were 15,24,034 injuries and 5,03,842 deaths in India. In Karnataka, nearly 1,95,000 hospitalizations and 34,378 deaths were reported in 2007 as per Crime Records Bureau Report<sup>30</sup>.

In Bengaluru, as per data from Bengaluru Injury Surveillance Programme (BISP) Injury deaths have increased from 2152 in 2000 to 4334 by 2007<sup>31</sup>. Road traffic injuries were the leading and commonest cause of deaths (28%) and hospitalizations (46%) with Pedestrians, two-wheeler occupant and bicyclists were at an increased risk<sup>31</sup>.

As per a retrospective study (1994–2007) done at KMC Manipal in 2007<sup>32</sup>, all cases of fatal unintentional injuries in children were aged 10 years and below. Seventy five such cases were identified during the 14 year study period. Males accounted for 68% of cases with a male–female ratio of 2.1:1. Mean age of male and female victims was 5.3 and 4.9 years, respectively. Road traffic fatalities accounted for majority of the cases in this age group (52%), followed by those due to thermal injuries (22.7%). Flame was the cause of thermal injuries in 52.9% cases and scalds were observed in 47.1% cases. Traffic fatalities, fall and drowning were more common in school age children while toddlers and pre-school age children were relatively at a greater risk from domestic accidents (thermal injuries and poisoning). The most frequent victims of road traffic incidents were pedestrians (64.1%). Head injuries alone were the cause of fatalities in the majority of road traffic incidents (82.1%). The study highlighted on the pattern of fatalities due to unintentional injuries among young children<sup>32</sup>.

As per data from Bengaluru Injury surveillance programme in 2007<sup>33</sup>, there were 209 deaths and 4,986 hospitalizations in a ratio of 1 : 25 between fatal to non

fatal falls and accounting for 6% of total injury deaths in the city of Bengaluru. Males and females accounted for 83% and 17%, respectively, with a ratio of 5:1. 10% of deaths and 20% of injuries occurred among children (< 15 years), while elderly (> 60years) contributed for 6% deaths and 7% of injuries, respectively. Nearly 70 % of fall deaths were in 16 - 40 years. In both fatal and nonfatal injuries, women in younger and elderly age groups were represented in higher numbers compared to men. Home was the commonest place in 30% of deaths. Falls on road (18%) and in construction sites (17%) were the other common place of falls. Falls in agricultural areas and shopping areas contributed 2% of deaths in the total series. Similarly, for nonfatal injuries, 40% occurred at home, followed by 31% in work places and 18% on roads. Among children, more than 80% of fatal and non-fatal injuries occurred at home while playing in balconies, staircases, compounds and at the entrance of home. Among nonfatal injuries, head was the commonest injured area in 53% of patients. Upper limbs (22%) and lower limbs (32%), commonly resulting in fractures were registered in more than half of injuries (54%). Among total hospital registrations, 43% were mild injuries, while 41% and 16% were moderate and severe in nature<sup>33</sup>.

In the young population of 15 – 44 years injuries are a leading cause of deaths, hospitalizations and disabilities. Data from vital statistics division of BBMP and BRSIPP study in 2010<sup>34</sup>, findings confirm this observation as nearly 70% (65% of male and 74% of female) of deaths were in 15 – 44 years with a male to female ratio of 2:1. Data from BRSIPP reveal that injuries were distributed across all months, even though some months registered higher numbers. Road traffic injuries were the leading cause of death in both rural and urban areas for both fatal and nonfatal injuries.

Unintentional injuries contributed for more than 2/3 of total non fatal injuries in Bangalore (70%). Nearly 50% of fatal in urban and 40% in rural were due to collision with heavy vehicles. Nearly 22% of non fatal fall injuries occurred among children less than 15 years, while 8% were in elderly beyond 60+ years. Nearly 53% of falls occurred in 15-44 years with a higher number among men. The male to female ratio was 4:1 with a male preponderance. More than half (54 %) of burn injuries among women occurred in the age group of 14-29 years with another half in 29 to 44 years<sup>34</sup>.

According to BISP 2008<sup>35</sup>, among the various road user categories killed in RTIs, pedestrians were the largest category to the extent of 52%. Two wheeler riders and pillions contributed for 26% and 11%, respectively. Bicyclists and car occupants had succumbed in road crashes to the extent of 5% and 3%, respectively. Auto rickshaw passengers were killed in 1.8% of deaths. In sharp contrast, among non-fatal injuries, more than half of injured brought to hospitals were two wheeler riders (42%) and pillions (9%), with pedestrians constituting one fourth of the series<sup>35</sup>.

**MATERIAL AND METHODS:**

**a) Source of data:** Data will be collected from victims/ patients of unintentional injuries brought to casualty of KLE's Dr. Prabhakar Kore hospital & MRC, Belgaum.

**b) Study design:** Cross-sectional study

**c) Study period:** From October 2011 to March 2012.

**d) Sample size:** by universal sampling method.

All the victims / patients of unintentional injuries coming to the casualty of KLE's Dr. Prabhakar Kore hospital during the study period will be included in study.

**e) Inclusion criteria:**

1. Victims/ patients of unintentional injuries of all age groups.
2. Both sexes.

**f) Exclusion criteria:**

1. Cases of intentional injuries/ deaths (suicidal, assault and homicidal)
2. Industrial accidents.

**g) Instruments used for data collection:** Proforma:

1. General particulars including the socio- demographic profile of the victims/ patients.

2. Detailed particulars of the injury.

The cause-specific unintentional injuries examined in our study, will be those that the World Health Organization (WHO) routinely analyzes and publishes data on. These include transportation injuries (air, land, water); falls; poisonings; burns; drowning; and other unspecified group of unintentional injuries.

The unintentional injury cases coming to the casualty were identified, properly explained about the objectives of the intended study and necessary details needed for the study was collected in the proforma, which included a detailed description of all the general data of the victims/ patients. Their socio- demographic profile was taken to study the prevalence of the various types of unintentional injuries in each age group, sex, socio economic status. Detailed data with respect to the injuries was taken regarding to the type of unintentional injury, mode, place of occurrence, degree of injury, factors causing the injury by interviewing the patient / attender's and by examination of the injured.

The data thus collected was analysed and conclusions drawn. Percentage distribution of different types of injuries calculated.

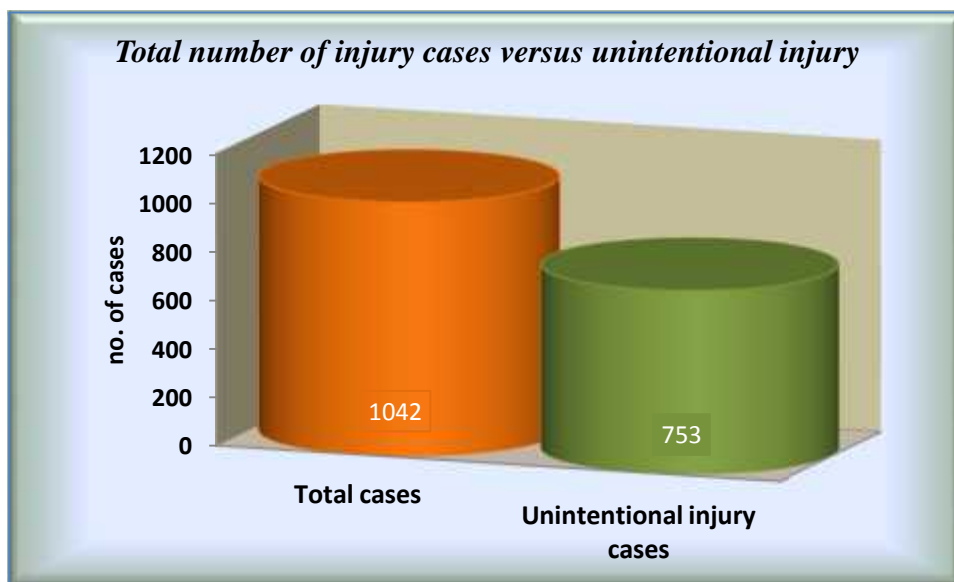
**RESULTS**

During the study period from October 2011 to March 2012, a total of 1042 injury cases came to the casualty of our tertiary health care centre out of which 753 cases were of unintentional injuries, constituting to 72.26% of the total injury cases. The same has been depicted in Table.no. 1, and Graph no. 1.

***Table 1: Showing total number of injury cases versus unintentional injury which came to the casualty during study period:***

Total number of injury cases	Total number of unintentional injury	Percentage
1042	753	72.26%

***Graph 1:***

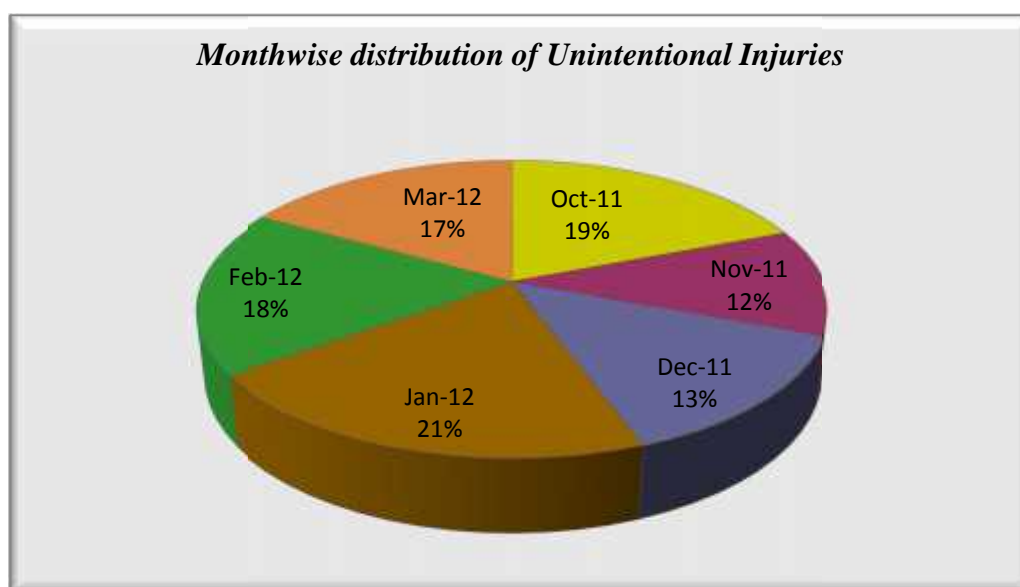


Out of the total 753 cases, maximum number of cases came in January constituting to 20.72%, and minimum no. of cases was seen in November with 11.69% (Table no.2; Graph no. 2)

**Table 2: Showing month wise distribution of unintentional injury cases:**

Month	Number of cases	Percentage
Oct 2011	144	19.12%
Nov 2011	88	11.69%
Dec 2011	102	13.55%
Jan 2012	156	20.72%
Feb 2012	136	18.06%
March 2012	127	16.87%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 2:**

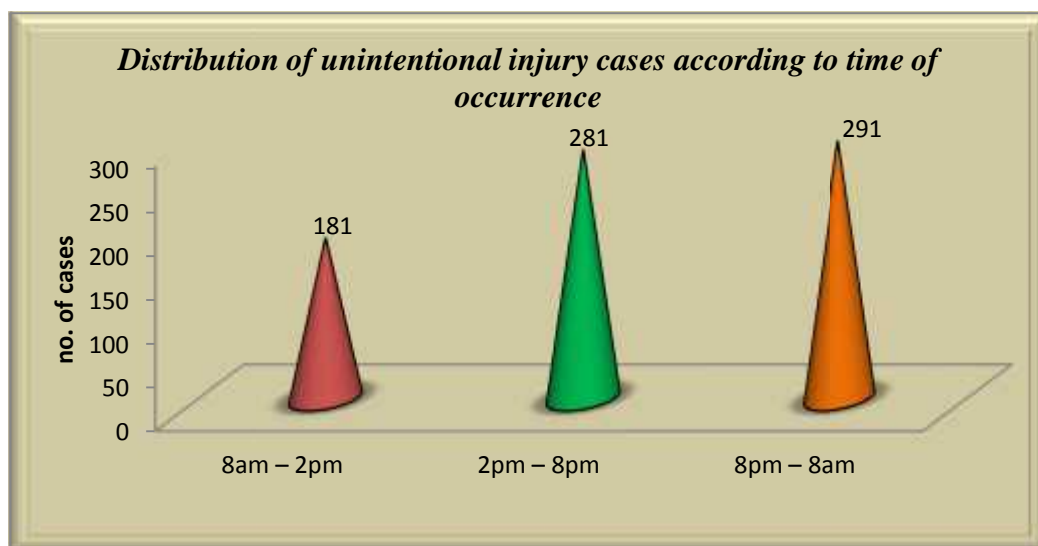


Maximum number of cases 291 (38.6%) came between 8.00 pm to 8.00 am, followed by 281 (37.2%) cases which came between 2.00 pm to 8.00 pm (Table no.3; Graph no. 3)

**Table 3: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to time of occurrence:**

Time	Cases	Percentage
8am – 2pm	181	24.04%
2pm – 8pm	281	37.23%
8pm – 8am	291	38.64%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 3:**

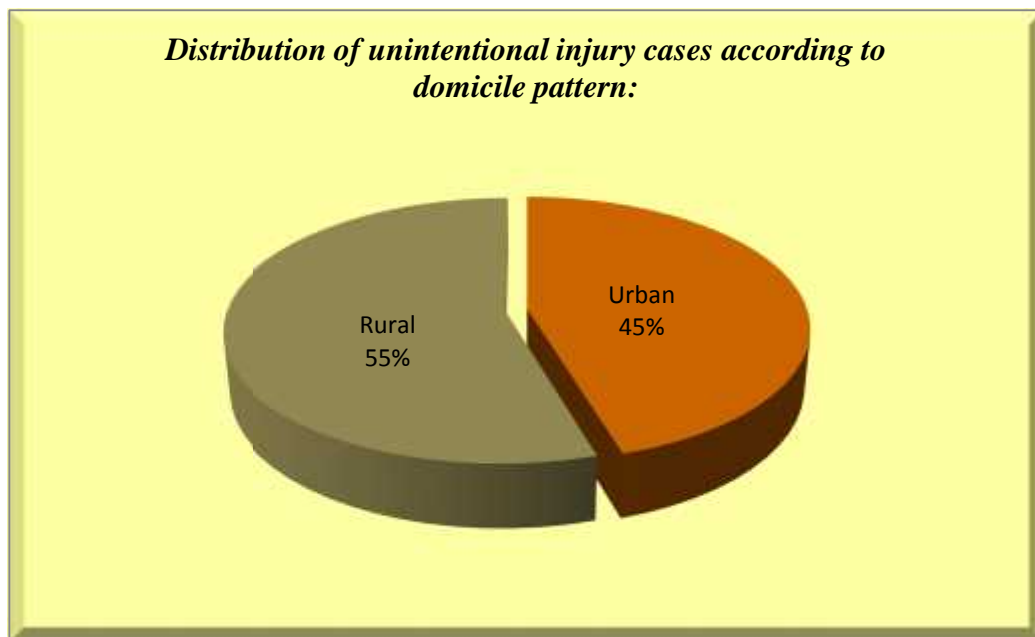


In the present study, the distribution of domicile pattern of the victims showed that 341 (45.3%) were from urban areas (within Belgaum city limits) and 412 (54.7%) cases from rural areas (Table no. 4; Graph no.4)

**Table 4: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to domicile pattern:**

Area	Case	Percentage
Urban	341	45.28%
Rural	412	54.72%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 4:**

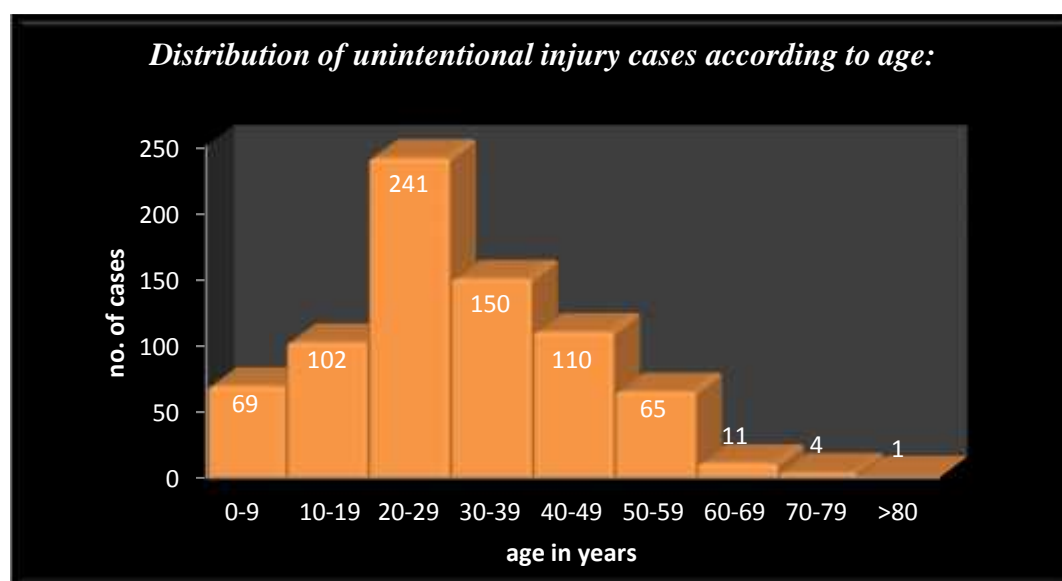


In the present study maximum number of victims 241 (32%) were in the age group of 20-29 years, followed by 150 (19.9%) were in the age group of 30-39 years (Table.no. 5; Graph no. 5)

**Table 5: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to age:**

Age in years	No. of cases	Percentage
0-9	69	9.16%
10-19	102	13.55%
20-29	241	32%
30-39	150	19.92%
40-49	110	14.6%
50-59	65	8.6%
60-69	11	1.46%
70-79	4	0.53%
>80	1	0.13%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 5:**

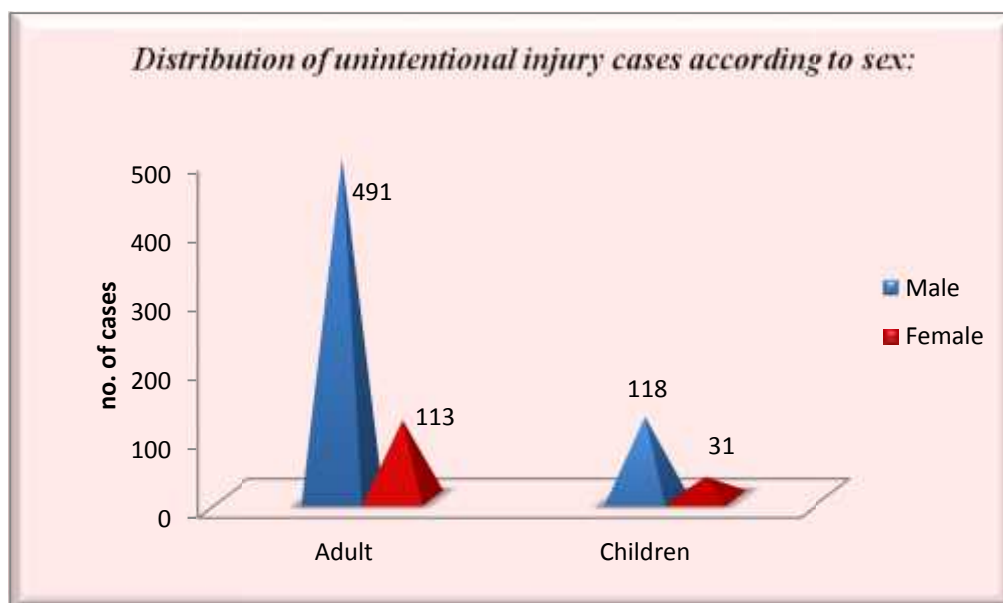


In our study out of the total, maximum number of cases 609 (80.9%) were male and 144 (19.1%) cases were female. Further among the total cases, 604 (80.2%) were adults and 149 (19.8%) children (Table no. 6; Graph no. 6)

**Table 6: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to sex:**

Sex	Adult	Children	Total
Male	491	118	609
Female	113	31	144
Total	604	149	753

**Graph 6:**

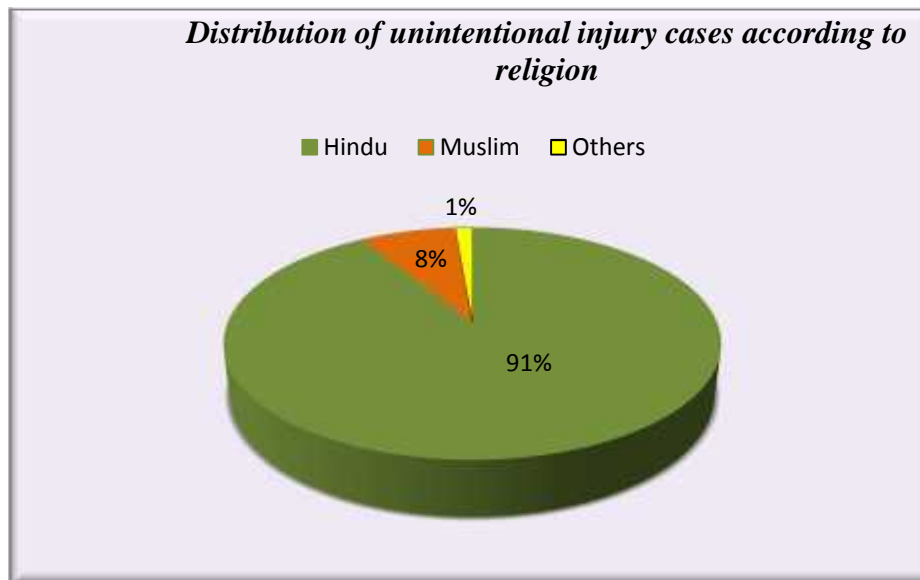


Maximum number of patients 687 (91.2%) belonged to Hindu religion, with other religions constituting to a minimal of 1.3% (Table no. 7; Graph no. 7)

**Table 7: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to religion:**

Religion	Cases	Percentage
Hindu	687	91.23%
Muslim	56	7.44%
Others	10	1.33%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 7:**

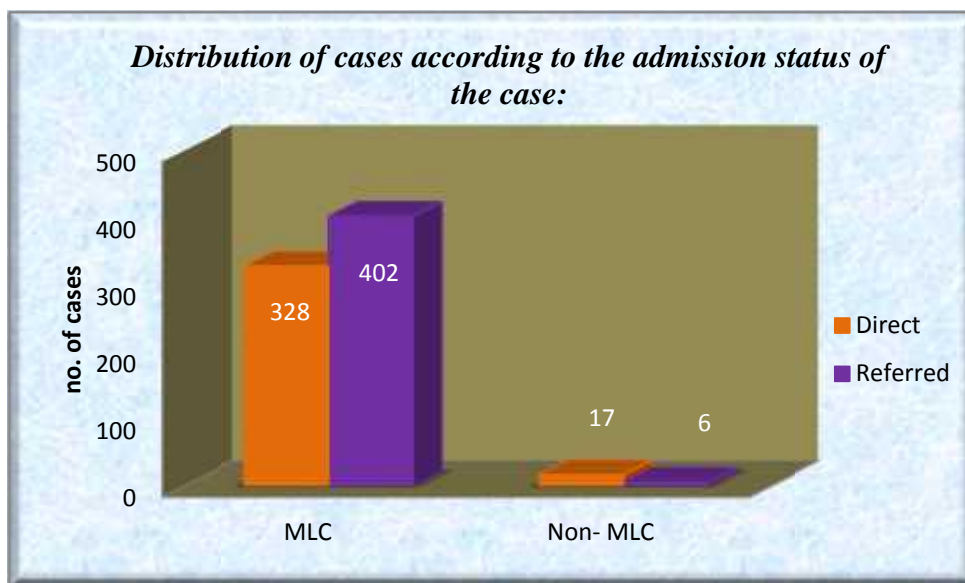


A total number of 345 cases came directly to the casualty of our hospital, out of which 328 cases were of medico-legal in nature; and majority i.e. 408 cases of unintentional injuries were referred, out of which 402 cases were of medico-legal in nature (Table no. 8; Graph no. 8)

**Table 8: Distribution of cases according to the admission status of the case:**

Category of admission	MLC	Non- MLC	Total
Direct	328	17	345
Referred	402	06	408
Total	730	23	753

**Graph 8:**

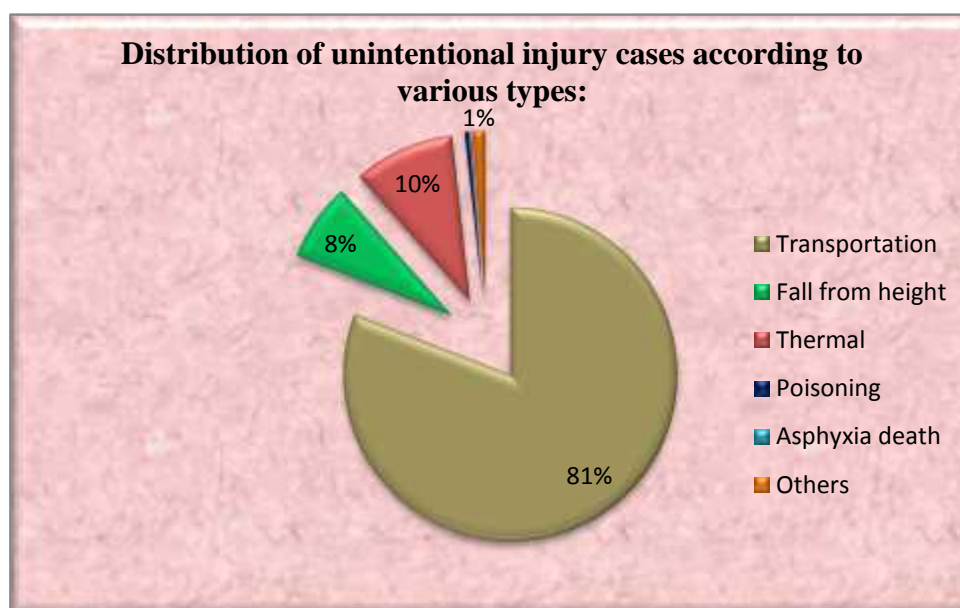


In the current study, transportation injuries constituted the maximum number i.e, 609 (80.8%) cases, followed by thermal injuries 74 (9.8%) cases, fall from height 57 (7.6%) cases; other miscellaneous group 9 (1.2%) cases; poisoning 3 (0.39%) and asphyxia 1 case (0.13%) (Table no. 9; Graph no. 9)

**Table 9: Distribution of unintentional injury cases according to various types:**

Type of case	Number of cases	Percentage
Transportation	609	80.87%
Fall from height	57	7.57%
Thermal	74	9.82%
Poisoning	03	0.39%
Asphyxia/ suffocation	01	0.13%
Others	09	1.19%
Total	753	100%

**Graph 9:**

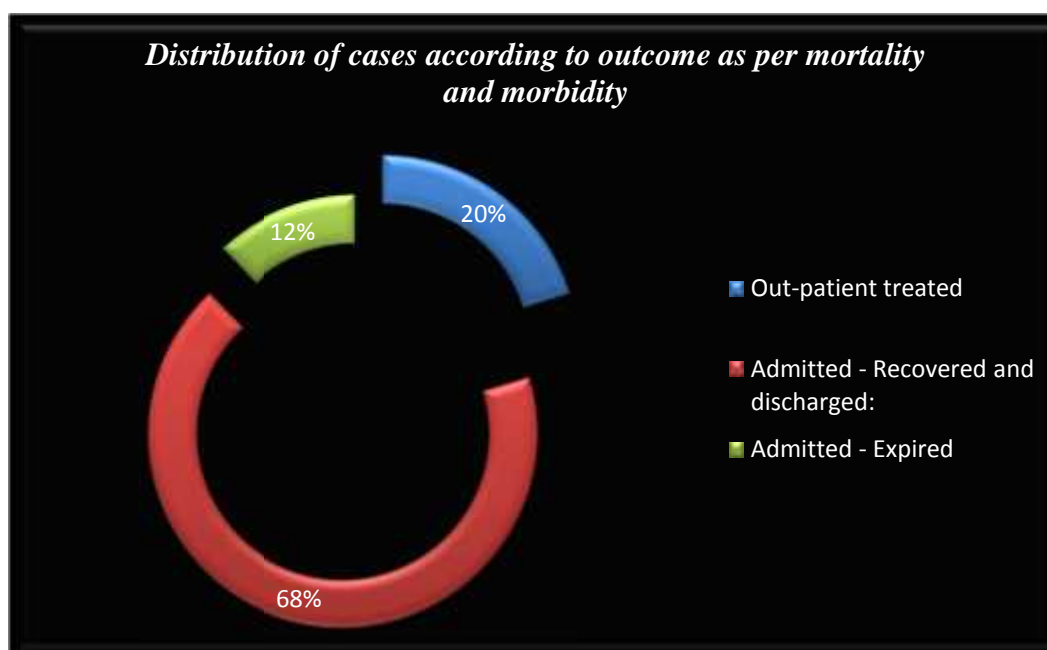


While studying the outcome of the 753 unintentional injuries in our study we came across the fact that majority of i.e 601 (79.7%) cases were admitted to the hospital and 152 (20.3%) cases were treated on out-patient basis. Among the 601 admitted cases of unintentional injuries, 510 (67.7% ) cases recovered and were discharged, while 91 (12%) cases expired accounting to a mortality rate of 12% overall (Table no.10; Graph no. 10)

**Table 10: Distribution of cases according to outcome as per mortality and morbidity:**

Total no. of unintentional injury cases:	Out-patient treated		Admitted			
			Recovered and discharged:		Expired	
753	152	20.3%	510	67.7%	91	12%

**Graph 10:**

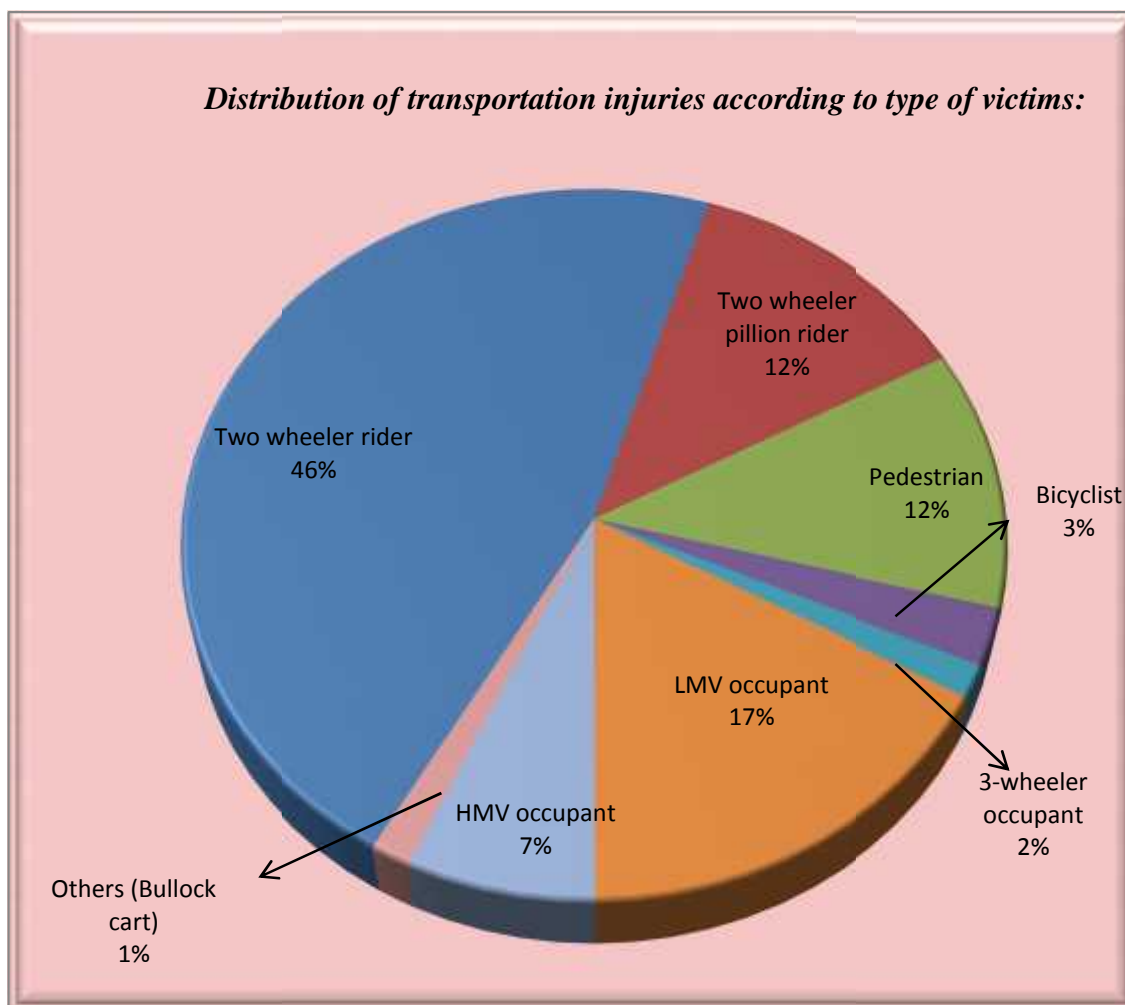


Among the victims in transportation injuries, majority of them were rider and pillion rider of a two wheeler 283 & 75 cases (58.78%) followed by occupants of LMV 103 (16.9%) cases; pedestrian 72 (11.82%) cases; HMV occupant 42 (6.89%) cases (Table no. 11.1; Graph no. 11.1).

**Table 11.1: Distribution of transportation injuries according to type of victims:**

Victim	Cases	Percentage
Pedestrian	72	11.82%
Bicyclist	16	2.62%
Two wheeler pillion rider	75	12.31%
Two wheeler rider	283	46.47%
Three wheeler occupant	09	1.47%
LMV occupant	103	16.91%
HMV occupant	42	6.89%
Others (Bullock cart)	09	1.47%
Total	609	100%

Graph 11.1:

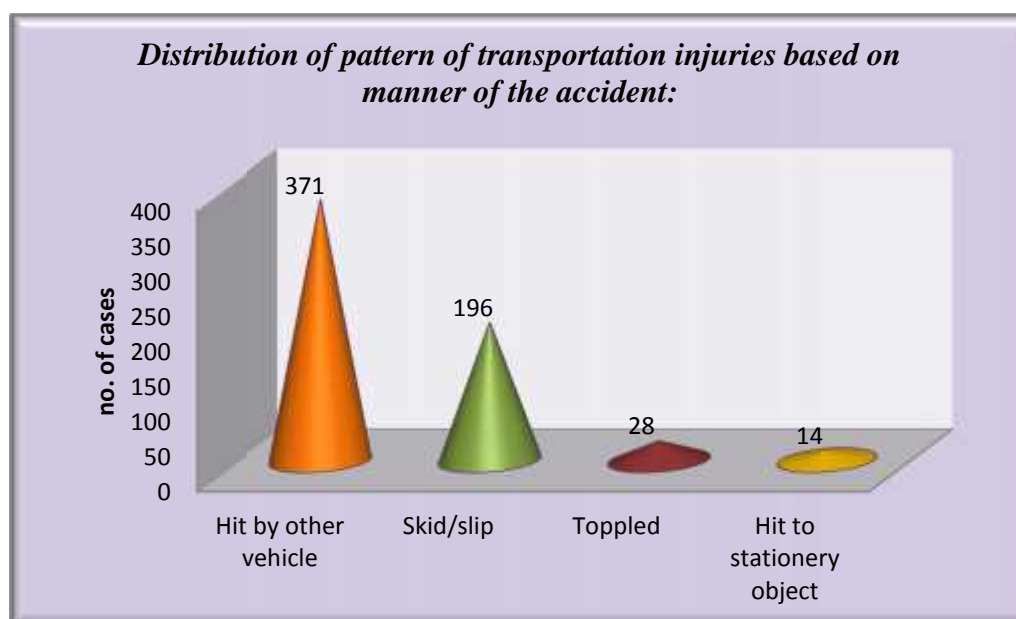


Based on the manner of accident of transportation injuries, it was noted in our study that majority of the unintentional transportation injuries occurred due to hit by/ to another vehicle 371 (60.9%) cases, followed by skid/ slip 196 (32.18%) cases. Injuries due to toppling of the vehicle were 28 (4.59%) cases and due to hit to a stationary object were 14 (2.29%) cases. (Table no. 11.2; Graph no. 11.2)

**Table 11.2: Distribution of pattern of transportation injuries based on manner of the accident:**

Manner	Number of cases	Percentage
Hit by other vehicle	371	60.92%
Skid/slip	196	32.18%
Toppled	28	4.59%
Hit to stationery object	14	2.29%
Total	609	100%

**Graph 11.2:**

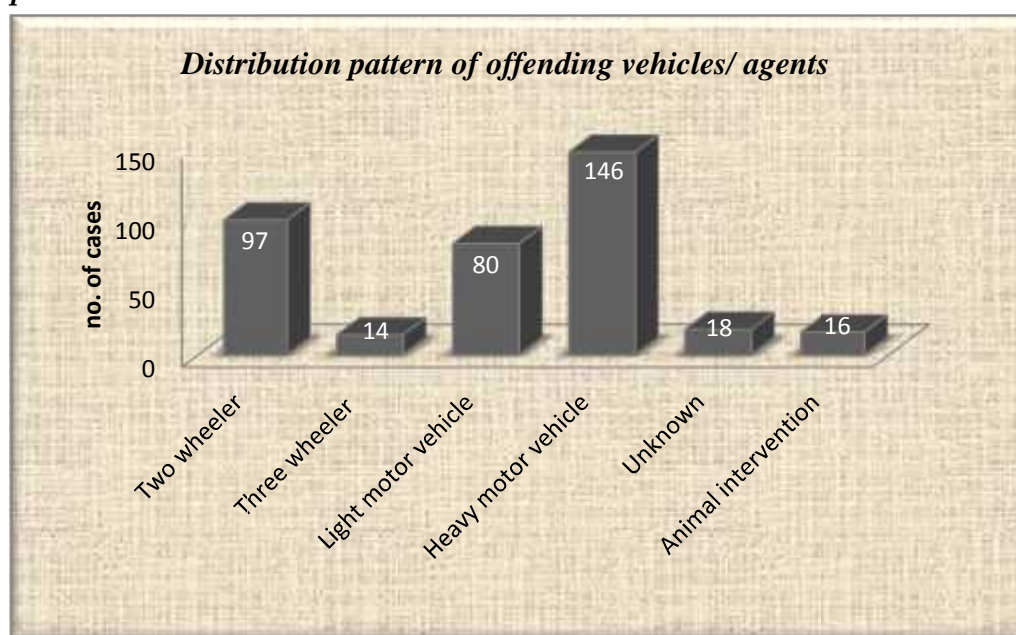


Out of the 371 cases in the transportation injuries which were due to hit by/ to another vehicle or agent, majority of the offending agent was HMV in 146 (39.4%) cases followed by 2- wheeler in 97 (26.1%) cases, LMV in 80 (21.6%) cases, unknown vehicles in 18 (4.8%) cases, animal intervention in 16 (4.3%) cases, and 3-wheeler in 14 (3.8%) cases. (Table no. 11.3; Graph no.11.3)

**Table 11.3: Distribution pattern of offending vehicles/ agents involved in the transportation injury cases:**

Offending vehicle	Number of cases	Percentage
Two wheeler	97	26.1%
Three wheeler	14	3.8%
Light motor vehicle	80	21.6%
Heavy motor vehicle	146	39.4%
Unknown	18	4.8%
Animal intervention	16	4.3%
Total	371	100%

**Graph 11.3:**



Out of the 609 transportation injury cases seen in our study 242 (39.7%) victims had superficial injuries; 206 (33.8%) victims suffered with skeletal injuries, 153 (25.1%) victims suffered with head injury among which 11 (1.8%) victims had spinal cord injury; and 49 (8%) victims had visceral injuries. The mortality rate in the transportation injuries was 8.5% (52 cases). (Table no. 11.4)

**Table 11.4: Distribution of pattern of injuries in transportation injury cases:**

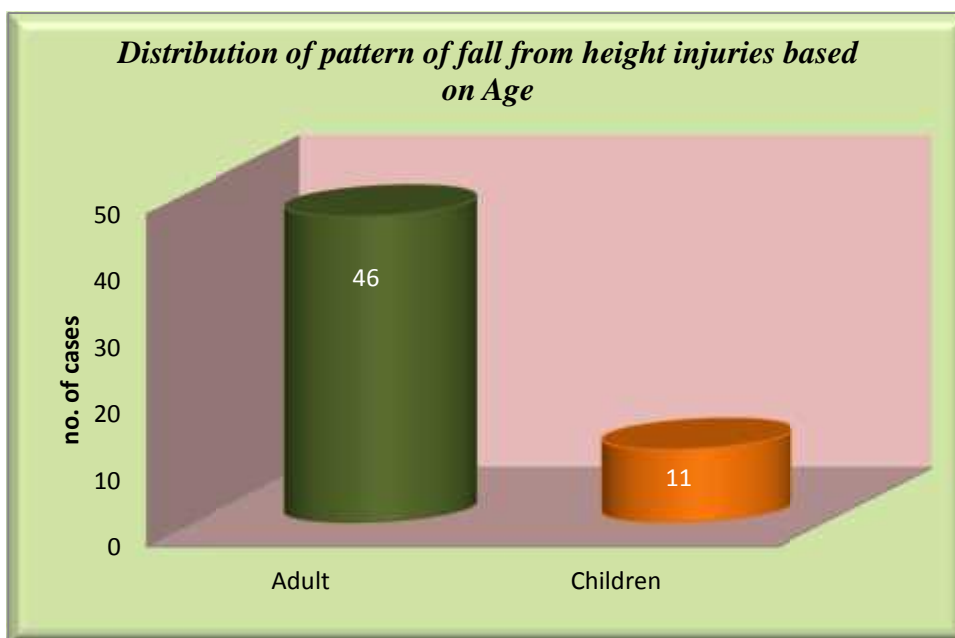
Pattern of injuries		Number of cases	Percentage	Total no. of transportation injury cases:
Superficial		242	39.7%	609
Visceral		49	8%	
Skeletal		206	33.8%	
Head injury	With spinal cord	11	1.8%	
	Without spinal cord	142	23.3%	
Mortality		52	8.5%	

In the current study, out of 753 cases of unintentional injuries 57 (7.6%) cases were due to fall from height, out of which 46 (80.7%) cases were involving adults and 11 (19.3%) victims were children. (Table no. 12.1; Graph no. 12.1)

**Table 12.1: Distribution of pattern of fall from height injuries based on Age:**

Age wise distribution	Number of cases	Percentage
Adult	46	80.7%
Children	11	19.3%
Total	57	100%

**Graph 12.1:**

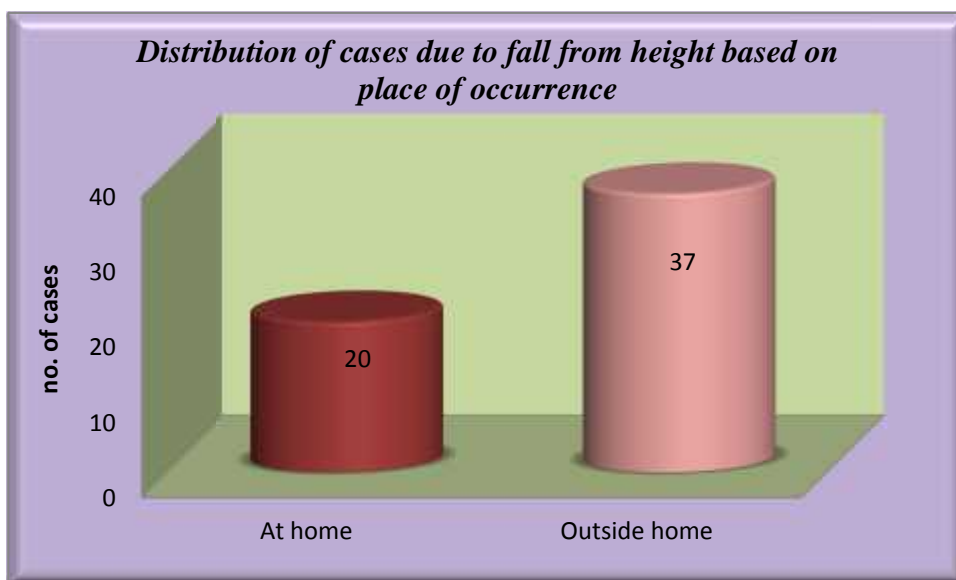


Among the 57 cases due to fall from height, 37 (64.9%) cases occurred outside home, and 20 (35.1%) cases was seen occurring at home. (Table no. 12.2; Graph no.12.2)

**Table 12.2: Distribution of cases due to fall from height based on place of occurrence:**

Place of occurrence	Number of cases	Percentage
At home	20	35.10%
Outside home	37	64.91%
Total	57	100%

**Graph 12.2:**

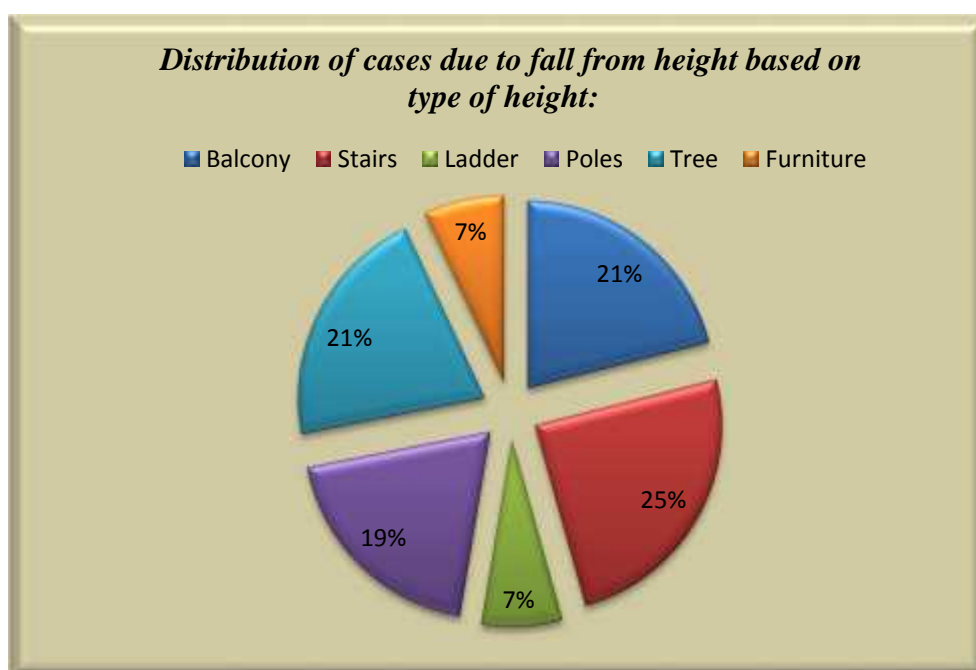


Out of the total fall from height cases encountered in the study, 14 (24.5%) cases had fallen from stairs, 12 (21.1%) from balcony and tree, 11 (19.3%) from poles, and 4 (7%) cases each from furniture and ladder. (Table no. 12.3; Graph no.12.3)

**Table 12.3: Distribution of unintentional injury cases due to fall from height based on type of height:**

Type of elevation	Number of cases	Percentage
Balcony	12	21.1%
Stairs	14	24.5%
Ladder	04	7%
Poles	11	19.3%
Tree	12	21.1%
Furniture	04	7%
Total	57	100%

**Graph 12.3:**

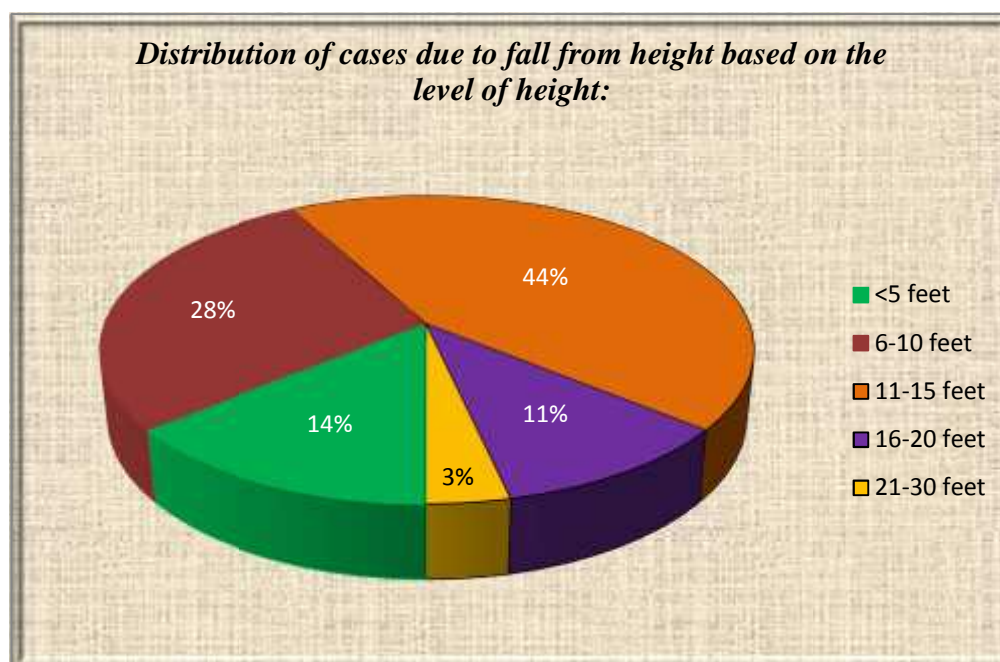


Based on the level of height, among the 57 cases due to fall from height, majority of cases 25 (43.80%) had fallen from 11-15 feet, 16 (28.10%) cases from 6-10 feet, 8 (14.10%) cases were from less than 5 feet. (Table no.12.4;Graph no.12.4)

**Table 12.4: Distribution of cases due to fall from height based on the level of height:**

Level of height	Number of cases	Percentage
<5 feet	8	14.10%
6-10 feet	16	28.10%
11-15 feet	25	43.80%
16-20 feet	06	10.50%
21-30 feet	02	3.50%
Total	57	100%

**Graph 12.4:**



Out of the 57 cases encountered due to fall from height in our study, mortality rate was seen in 15.8% (9 cases). In total 66.7% (38) of victims showed external injuries; 68.4%(39) victims suffered with head injury again out of which 8.8% (5) had involvement of spinal cord; 45.6% (26) of victims sustained visceral injuries and 8.7% (5) victims sustained skeletal injuries. (Table no. 12.5)

**Table 12.5: Distribution of cases based on pattern of injuries sustained in fall from height:**

Pattern of injuries		Number of cases	Percentage	Total no. of cases
External		38	66.7%	57
Visceral		26	45.6%	
Skeletal		05	8.7%	
Head injury	With out spinal cord	34	59.6%	
	With spinal cord	05	8.8%	
Mortality		9	15.8%	

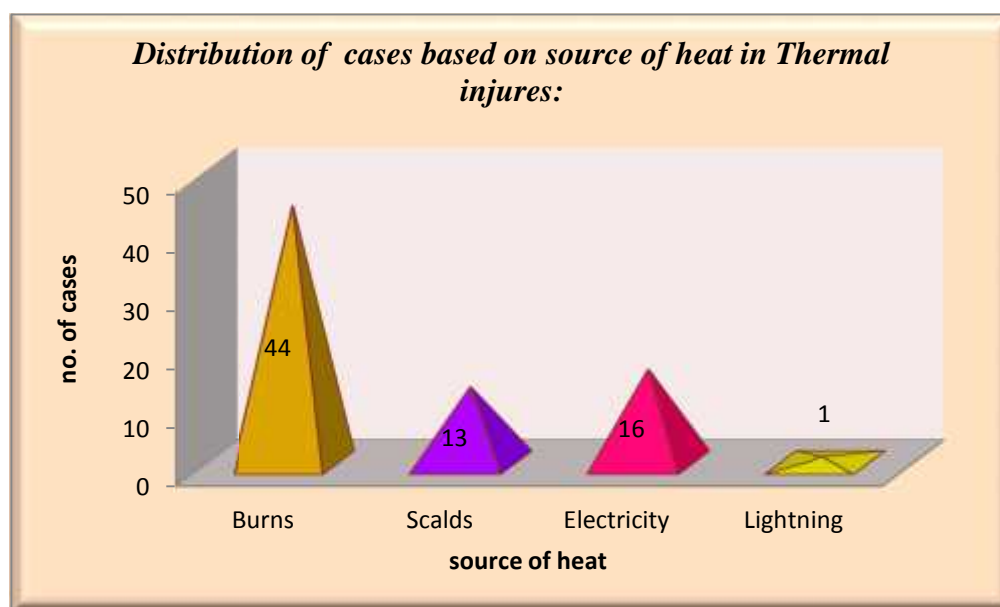
We encountered 74 cases of thermal injuries out of 753 unintentional injury cases in our set up. Of which majority 44 cases (59.45%) were due to burns; 13 (17.56%) cases were due to scalds; 16 (21.62%) cases were due to electrocution and a rare 1 (1.35%) case was due to lightning. (Table no. 13.1; Graph no.13.1)

**Table 13.1: Distribution of unintentional injury cases based on source of heat in**

**Thermal injures:**

Source of Heat	Number of cases	Percentage	Total no. of cases
Burns	44	59.45%	74
Scalds	13	17.56%	
Electricity	16	21.62%	
Lightning	01	1.35%	
Mortality	30	40.5%	

**Graph 13.1:**

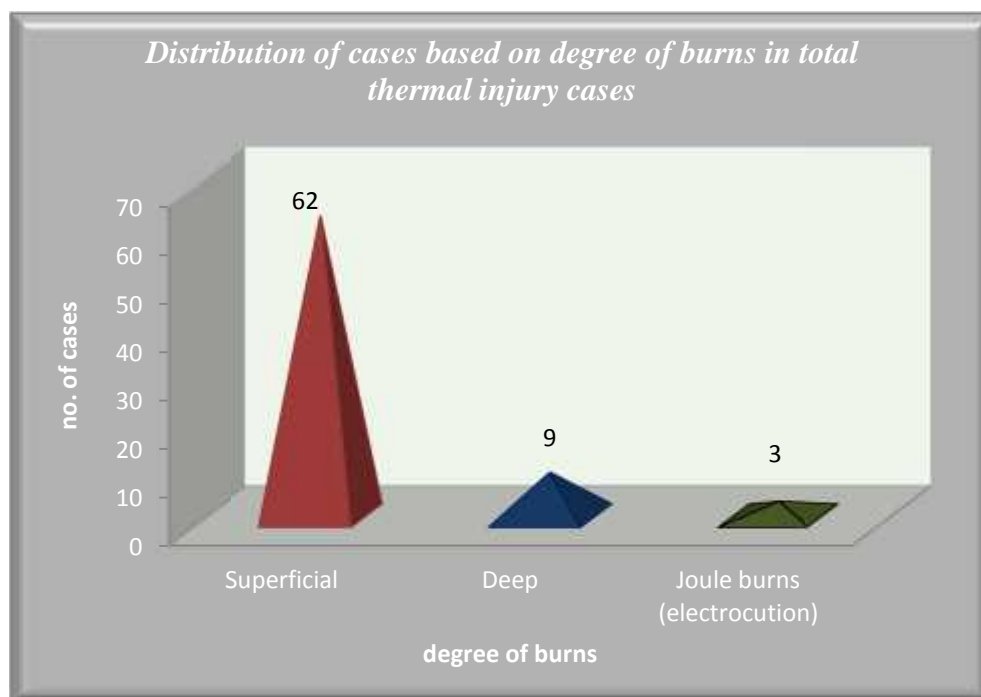


Based on degree of burns in total thermal injury cases, majority 62 (83.78%) of victims suffered superficial burns and deep burns was seen in 9 (12.16%) cases; Joule burns (due to electrocution) was seen in 3 (4.10%) cases. (Table no. 13.2; Graph no. 13.2)

**Table 13.2: Distribution of cases based on degree of burns in total thermal injury cases:**

Degree of Burns	Number of cases	Percentage
Superficial	62	83.78%
Deep	09	12.16%
Electrocution joule burns	03	4.10%
Total	74	100%

**Graph 13.2:**

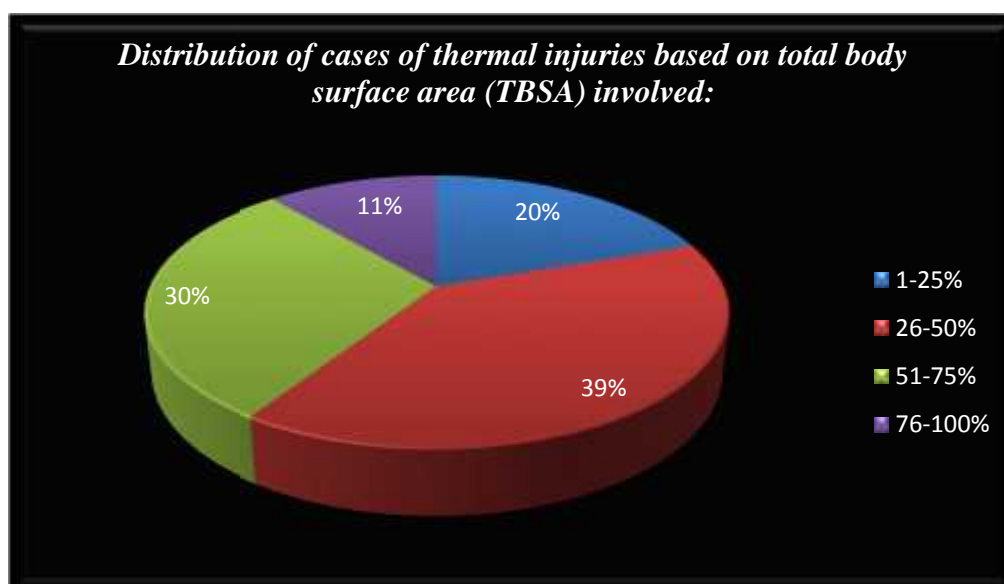


Depending on the involvement of total body surface area in total thermal injuries, 28 (39.4%) victims had burns involving 26-50% of body surface area; 21 (29.6%) victims had involvement of 51-75% of body surface area; 14 (19.7%) victims had <25% involvement and 8 (11.3%) victims had involvement of more than 76% of body surface area. (Table no. 13.3; Graph no. 13.3)

**Table 13.3: Distribution of cases of thermal injuries based on total body surface area (TBSA) involved:**

TBSA	Number of cases	Percentage
<25%	14	19.7%
26-50%	28	39.4%
51-75%	21	29.6%
76-100%	08	11.3%
Total	71	100%

**Graph 13.3:**



We encountered 3 cases of unintentional poisoning cases out of the total 753 cases. Of the 3 cases all were seen in children, 2 occurred at home and 1 at school. There was no mortality. Among the type of poison one was unknown plant poison, one was kerosene and the other was rat poison. (Table no. 14)

**Table 14: Distribution of unintentional poisoning cases :**

Age	Sex	Type of poison	Place of Occurrence	Outcome
12 yrs	Female	Plant	School	Recovered
06 yrs	Male	Kerosene	Home	Recovered
11 yrs	Male	Rat poison	Home	Recovered

There was only one case of asphyxial type of unintentional injury we saw in our study and that was involving an infant of 1 yr wherein drowning features were seen due to unintentional fall of the child into the open tank in its house. However the child recovered. (Table no. 15)

**Table 15: Distribution of unintentional injury due to asphyxia:**

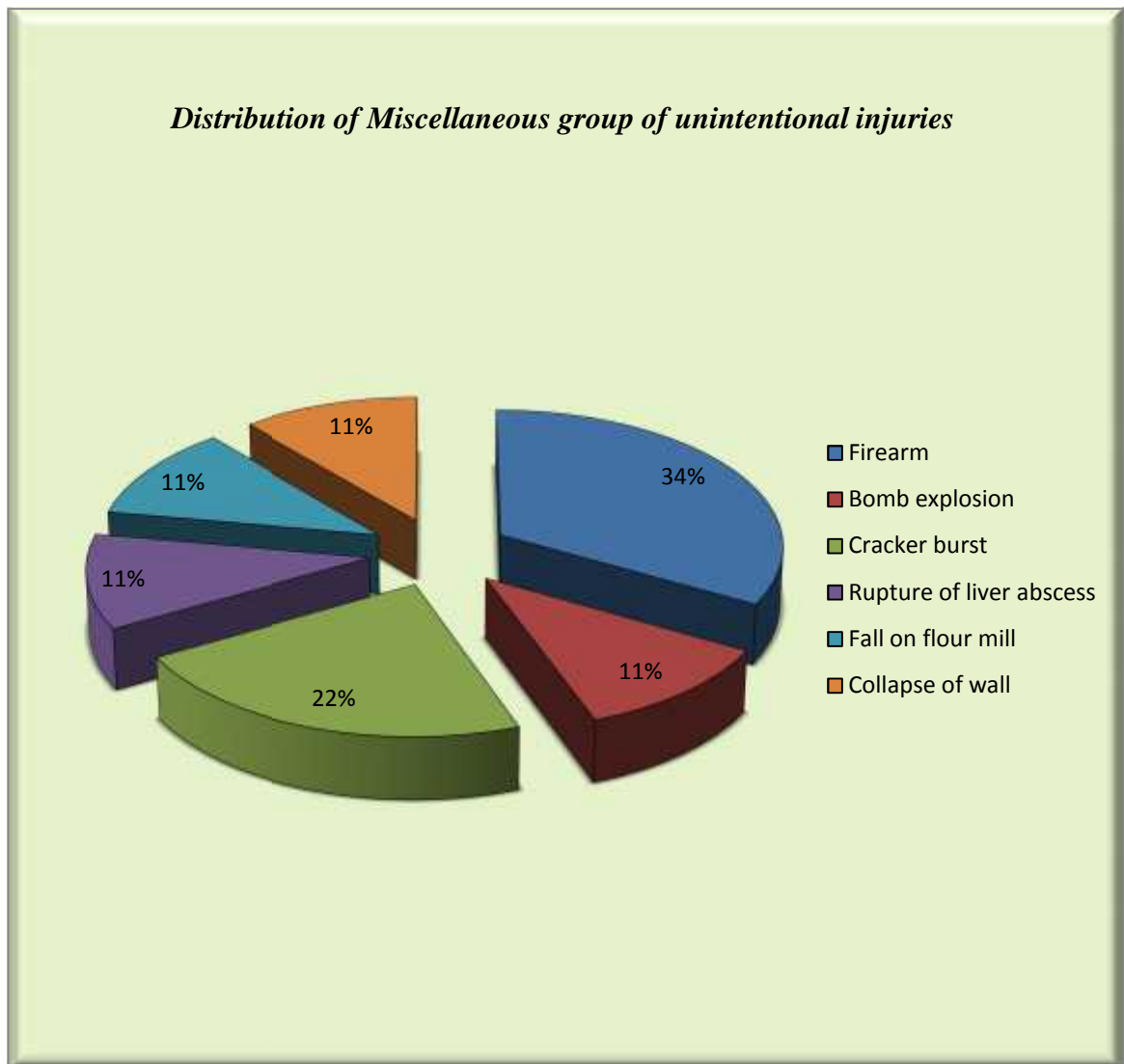
Age	Type of Asphyxia	Place of occurrence
1 year	Drowning	Tank in house

Among the total number of unintentional injury cases encountered in our set up, 9 cases were rare and peculiar and were put under miscellaneous group of unintentional injuries as they did not belong to any other group of unintentional injury classification. Out of the 9 cases, 3 were due to unintentional firing of firearm and were seen in males, 2 involving military men at training; 1 case was of premature blast of a bomb again seen in training of the military personnel. 2 cases involved cracker burst one of them involving a child. One case was that of a spontaneous rupture of old liver abscess while he was driving his motorbike. Another case involving a female was seen wherein she fell on the flour mill belt and got injured and the last case involved collapse of compound wall on a male while he was asleep. (table no. 16; graph no. 14)

**Table 16: Distribution of Miscellaneous group of unintentional injuries encountered in the study:**

Type of injury	Adult		Children		Number of cases	Percentage
	Male	Female	Male	Female		
Firearm	03	-	-	-	03	34%
Bomb explosion	01	-	-	-	01	11%
Cracker burst	01	-	1	-	02	22%
Rupture of liver abscess	01	-	-	-	01	11%
Fall on flour mill	-	01	-	-	01	11%
Collapse of wall	01	-	-	-	01	11%
Total	07	01	01	0	09	100%

Graph 14:



**DISCUSSION:**

The present study involved a total of 753 unintentional injury cases out of 1042 total injury cases which came to the casualty of our tertiary care center which is a 2000 bedded hospital over a period of 6 months, making the burden of the unintentional injuries in our set up accounting to 72.26% of all injury cases (Table no.1; Graph no.1). Similar incidence of unintentional injuries forming the bulk of the total injuries was seen in the study done by Colarado department of public health in 2003<sup>18</sup>, and from the report by BBMP and BRSIPP\* in 2010<sup>34</sup>, which is shown in table .D1.

**Table no. D1:** Showing comparative analysis of case burden of unintentional injuries vs total injuries:

<i>Study / data by:</i>	<i>Study in the year</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Unintentional injury cases/ Total injury cases</i>
Colarado dept of public health <sup>18</sup>	2003	Colarado	60%
BBMP*, BRSIPP <sup>34</sup>	2010	Bengaluru	>70%
Pushpa.M.G Manjulabai.K.H, present study	2011-12	Belgaum	72.26%

\*BBMP –Bruhat bangalore mahanagara palike

\*BRSIPP –Bangalore road safety and injury prevention programme.

It is a cautioning indicator for us notifying that the morbidity of unintentional injuries is very high in our set up too which needs more studies and evaluation for effective prevention.

Our study showed that the maximum number of cases was seen in the month of January with 21% of incidence and minimum was seen in the month of November with an incidence of 12%, with rest of the months coming in between this range (Table no.2; Graph no.2). But according to the report by BISP 2008<sup>35</sup>, there was no month wise variation in distribution of cases.

No significant correlation was seen between the case burden and the month wise distribution since our study did not comprise of a whole year, and there was no major difference seen in the distribution pattern.

With respect to the time of occurrence, most of the cases in our study came between 2 pm to 8 pm (37.23%) (Table no.3; Graph no.3). The probable reason for this may be that in the evening times most of them are tired after the working hours compared to morning hours when they are fresh and alert, and risk for the accidental/unintentional injury was more. However, there is no comparative data available from others' study.

***Domicile pattern:*** Our study witnessed an almost equal number of cases from rural and urban setting of Belgaum, though there was a slight preponderance towards rural cases constituting 55% of the case load (Table no.4; Graph no.4). This may be due to the fact that ours is a tertiary referral care center.

***Age:*** In our study it was observed that majority of the case load was in the age group of 20-49yrs constituting to 66.5% of the overall cases which is a major bulk of the productive population, followed by 23% of the total cases were seen in the age group of 0-19 years.. Above 60 years of age there were hardly 2% of cases (table no. 5; graph no.5). Adults formed the majority with 80.2% and children (<18 years) 19.8 % (Table no. 6; Graph no. 6)

This can be explained by the fact that young age people are more mobile, active and form the productive population of the society, and hence exposed to the risk of unintentional injury. Whereas old aged and children are exposed less because more precautions are taken and most of them remain indoors, risk taking behavior is less in old age.

The results are similar to the results of report from BBMP and BRSSIP<sup>34</sup> but, few others' study had variations which are depicted in the Table no. D2.

**Table no. D2:** Comparative analysis of age wise distribution with other studies:

<i>Study / data by:</i>	<i>Study in the year</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Unintentional injuries</i>	<i>Comparison with present study</i>
Colarado dept of public health <sup>18</sup>	2003	1-44yrs	60%	Less than our study
Bose A, Konradson F, John J, Suganthy P, Muliylil J, Abraham S <sup>28</sup>	South India-2006	15-29 yrs	70%	More than our study
BBMP, BRSSIP <sup>34</sup>	Bengaluru-2010	15-44 yrs	70%	Similar to our study.
Pushpa.M.G Manjulabai.K.H, present study	Belgaum-2011-12	0-19 yrs	23% of cases	
		20-49yrs	65.5% of cases	
		>60yrs	2% of cases.	

**Sex:** In our study Males were the majority in overall comprising 80.8% of the case load (Table no.6; Graph no.6), morbidity ratio for male to female is 4:1 and mortality ratio is 2.8: 1. The reason for this can be attributed to the fact that males form a majority of the population going out for work, driving vehicles, and have an

inherent risk taking behavior, hence exposing themselves more for unintentional injuries.

A similar pattern in mortality ratio was seen in the data of National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) 1992-99<sup>10</sup>; BBMP & BRSIPP<sup>34</sup>; and study by Tanuj Kanchan, Ritesh G. Menezes, and Francis,N.P. Monteiro<sup>32</sup>. But compared to our study, the ratio was less in studies from Nagesh N. Borse, M.S.Julie Gilchrist et.al<sup>13</sup>; J Jagnoor, L Keay, R Ivers, W Suraweera, P Jha<sup>27</sup>; and data from National Adolescent Health Information Center<sup>20</sup> and WHO 2004 report<sup>5</sup> which is depicted in table.D3

Comparative analyses for morbidity ratio for male to female were not available except for data from WHO 2004<sup>5</sup>, which was very less (1.7:1) compared to the ratio from our study.

**Table no. D3:** Comparative analysis of sex wise distribution of cases and ratio of the same with other studies:

<i>Study / data by</i>	<i>Place; study year</i>	<i>Dominance</i>	<i>Age group</i>	<i>Ratio of death rate:</i>	<i>Morbidity ratio</i>	<i>Comparison with present study</i>
National Vital Statistics System (NVSS) <sup>10</sup>	US -1992 to 1999,	M>F	All age group	2:1		Similar to our study
Nagesh N. Borse, M.S.Julie Gilchrist et.al <sup>13</sup>	US -2000-2006	M>F	0-19 yrs	19.3:10		Less than our study
WHO <sup>5</sup>	2004	M>F	All age group	2:1;	1.7:1	Less than our study
National Adolescent Health Information Center <sup>20</sup> .	San Francisco-2003	M>F	10-14yrs	1.7:1		Less than our study
J Jagnoor, L Keay, R Ivers, W Suraweera, P	India-2001-	M>F	All age group	8:5		Less than our study

Jha <sup>27</sup>	2003			(1.6:1)		
Tanuj Kanchan Ritesh G. Menezes, N.P. Monteiro MD <sup>32</sup>	KMC Manipal 1994-2007	M>F	<10yrs	2.1:1		Similar to our study
BBMP, BRSIPP <sup>34</sup>	2010	M>F	15- 44yrs	2:1		Similar to our study
Pushpa.M.G Manjulabai.K.H, (present study)	2011- 2012	M>F	All age group	2.8:1	4:1	

**Religion:** Majority of the unintentional injury cases (91.2%) in our study belonged to Hindu religion (Table no.7; Graph no.7). No significant correlation could be drawn and there is no comparative data available from others' studies.

**Referred / direct:** Among the total 753 cases, referred cases accounted for 54.2% against 45.8% of direct cases. The reason probably is that, our hospital is a tertiary referral care center and that too majority (93.3%) were medico-legal cases (Table no.8; Graph no.8).

**Overall injury distribution:** In our study transportation injuries formed the bulk of the unintentional injuries contributing to 80.87%. Whereas thermal injuries contributed to 9.8%, fall from height 7.6%. Unintentional poisoning 0.39 % ( 3 cases) and asphyxia 0.13 % ( 1 case) were minimal and all the cases were children (Table no.9; Graph no.9). But, in the study conducted by John C. LeBlanc, Barry Pless, Canada<sup>11</sup>, the maximum number (50.4%). of cases were of fall from height.

The reason for transportation injuries forming the bulk of the unintentional injuries in our study could be due to the fact that urbanization and modernization have

affected the lifestyle to a great extent. Today even an average / low income family owns a two- wheeler contributing to ever increase in number of vehicles hitting the road especially in the cities, highways, etc. In other hand, the decreased usage of pump stove and increased usage of safer gas stoves has decreased the unintentional injuries due to thermal injuries.

The total mortality rate in our study is 12% (91 cases) of the total cases 753 seen (Table no.10; Graph no.10). The major contributors for this mortality were from transportation injuries 57.1% (52 cases) followed by thermal injuries 33% (30 cases); and fall from height 9.9% (9 cases). Being a tertiary care center, more experienced specialists with sophisticated equipments and newer methods of treatment may be the reason for lesser mortality rate in the present study. The mortality was more due to transportation injuries, and is in accordance to the weightage of case load. Though the case burden due to thermal injuries is less (9.8%) the mortality rate is high (33%) indicating that most of the thermal injury cases referred were fatal.

A similar pattern of mortality rate due to transportation injuries was seen in the studies of Bener A, Hyder AA, Schenk E<sup>24</sup> and Colorado dept of public health<sup>18</sup>. But differed from the studies of J Jagnoor, L Keay, R Ivers, W Suraweera, P Jha<sup>27</sup>; M Cardona, R Joshi, R Q Ivers, S Iyengar,et.al<sup>4</sup> and WHO report 2007 and BISP 2007<sup>33</sup>. Pattern of mortality rate due to falls in WHO report 2007 is similar to present study; but are very low when compared to the results from J Jagnoor, L Keay, R Ivers, W Suraweera, P Jha<sup>27</sup> and M Cardona, R Joshi, R Q Ivers, S Iyengar,et.al<sup>4</sup>.

However, there was no available data to compare the mortality rate of thermal injuries.

**Table no. D4:** Comparative analysis of mortality rate of various unintentional

injuries with other studies:

<i>Study / data by</i>	<i>Place; study year</i>	Transportation injuries	Falls	Thermal injuries	Drowning
WHO <sup>5</sup>	Worldwide-2004	33%,	11%,	—	10%
Colarado dept of public health <sup>18</sup> (g)	Colarado-2003	45%	—	—	—
Bener A, Hyder AA, Schenk E <sup>24</sup>	UAE- 2007	68.3%	—	—	—
J Jagnoor, L Keay, R Ivers, W Suraweera, P Jha <sup>27</sup>	India- 2001-03	29%	26%	—	11%
M Cardona, R Joshi, R Q Ivers, S Iyengar,et.al <sup>4</sup>	Andhra Pradesh ; 2003-04	13%	20%	—	—
BISP <sup>33</sup>	bengaluru - 2007	28%	—	—	—
Pushpa.M.G Manjulabai.K.H, Present study	Belgaum; 2011- 2012	57.1%;	9.9%	33%;	—

**Transportation injuries:** In our study, among the total 609 transportation injuries majority of the victims were two wheeler rider and pillion riders (58.8%) followed by LMV occupant (16.9%) and pedestrians (11.8%) (Table no.11.1; graph no.11.1). While the most common offending vehicle/ agent involved was HMV (39.4%) followed by two-wheeler (26.1%) and LMV (21.6%) (Table no.11.3; graph no.11.3). Majority of the injuries occurred due to hit by another vehicle (61%) followed by self fall by slip/skid (32.2%) (Table no.11.2; graph no.11.2). Similar

results were seen according to BISP report 2008<sup>35</sup>, where two wheeler rider and pillion formed the majority (51%) of the victims in transportation injuries. But it differed from study by Naci H, Chisholm D, Baker TD<sup>17</sup> wherein 60% of injuries occurred in LMV occupants in high income countries and pedestrians 45% in LMIC.

The reason for this could be the fact that due to urbanization and growing economy, easy availability of funds/ loans from the banks have made easier for a common man to afford a two wheeler. Even a low income family will be having a two wheeler for commuting. With an increase in the number of vehicles on the roads, as well as vehicular speed, along with lack of knowledge about traffic rules, rash & negligent drive, non usage of safety measures, unchecked road crossings, etc., the burden of road traffic injuries are definitely to increase.

Regarding pattern of injuries, external injuries 39.7% and skeletal injuries 33.8% formed the majority in transportation injures, followed closely by head injury (25%) (Table no. 11.4). This could be because of clothing pattern and invisibility of blunt injuries due to wheatish and dark skin complexion and deeper contusion.

However, no studies were available for effective comparative analysis.

***Fall from height:*** In our study, adult to children ration in fall from height cases was 4:1 (Table no.12.1; Graph no.12.1), still the number of affected children is significant. Most of the fall cases were contributed by outdoor sources viz trees, poles stairs. Most of the inside home falls, were from balcony, stairs and furniture (Table no.12.3; Graph no.12.3). In children falls were mostly due to unattended children at play, curiosity of the child, not expecting the dangerousness by children, etc. The most common level of height use to be 6-15 feet (Table no. 12.4; Graph no.12.4).

These findings were similar to the findings of BISP- 2007 report<sup>33</sup>, where fall at home was 30%. The causative agent for fall in children is very similar to the study conducted by John C. LeBlanc, Barry Pless<sup>11</sup>, which involved furniture (7.9%) when compared to our study (7%).

Head injury formed the majority (68%) in fall cases followed by visceral injuries (45.6%) (Table no. 12.5). This was similar to the results from the study conducted by BISP 2007<sup>33</sup> where head injury formed 53% of the total injuries but differed in skeletal injuries where it was seen in 54% of the fall cases. This could be due to the reason that since ours is a referral center; we received serious and complicated cases of injuries.

**Thermal injuries:** Most of the cases seen in our study were involving dry burns (59.5%) followed by electrocution (21.6%) and scalds (17.5%) and a rare case of lightning was seen (Table no. 13.1; Graph no.13.1). Superficial burns were seen in most of the cases involving 83.8% of the cases while deep burns seen in 12.13% only (Table no. 13.2; Graph no.13.2). Most of the cases had an involvement of 26-75% of body surface area (69%), and >76% of burns seen in 11.3% of cases (Table no. 13.3; Graph no.13.3). The mortality rate in thermal injury cases was very high accounting to 40.5% of the total thermal injury cases and accounting to 33% of the overall mortality rate. This indicates that though the unintentional thermal injuries were less compared to the overall case burden, the fatality rate was more suggesting that more stringent precautions and preventive measures have to be taken to prevent the mortality and morbidity due to thermal injuries.

The incidence of burns (59.5%) is similar to the study by Tanuj Kanchan Ritesh G. Menezes, and Francis,N.P. Monteiro<sup>32</sup> (52.9%), but significantly more than

the results in a study by John C. LeBlanc, Barry Pless, Canada<sup>11</sup> (30%). However, incidence of scalds (17.56%) in our study is less than that of in the study by Tanuj Kanchan Ritesh G. Menezes, and Francis,N.P. Monteiro (27.1%)<sup>32</sup> and John C. LeBlanc, Barry Pless, Canada (43.7%)<sup>11</sup>.

***Unintentional poisoning:*** 3 cases of unintentional poisoning were encountered in our study and all involved children. It involved accidental consumption of an unknown plant's fruit by a school child, consumption of kerosene and rat poison by others. No mortality was seen (Table no.14).

But it differed from the study conducted by John C. LeBlanc, Barry Pless, Canada<sup>11</sup>, wherein household poisons and medications were the common agents for unintentional poisoning in children.

Most of the unintentional poisoning cases will be seen in children because they will not be able to differentiate between safe and unsafe substances. School going children are also more prone because they are exposed outside without any elderly monitoring and they do venture into adventures of trying new things.

***Unintentional injury due to asphyxia:*** One case involving an infant of 1 year was seen in our study wherein the child had accidentally fallen into the tank in the house. However, no other study was available to compare. Children by nature are more attracted by water irrespective of their source hence, more prone for unintentional suffocation/ drowning because even a small source of water at home is sufficient enough to drown them.

***Miscellaneous group of unintentional injuries:*** In our study, among the total number of unintentional injury cases, 9 cases were encountered as rare and peculiar.

Out of these 9 cases, 4 were ammunition cases involving 3 trainee military men among which 2 were shotgun injuries and 1 case was of premature blast of a bomb while undergoing training; and 1 security personnel who sustained shotgun injury while cleaning the firearm. There were 2 cases of cracker burst; one of the victims was child. There was also a case of male with spontaneous rupture of old liver abscess while driving his motorbike; another case of female injured due to accidental fall on a flour mill belt, and a case of male injured due to collapse of compound wall while he was asleep (Table no.16; Graph no. 14).

However, this type of detail study is not found in others' studies to compare.

After going through all the various literatures and studies all over the world and in India, it was observed that though there were many studies and statistical reports on unintentional death rates in most of the countries, very minimal studies and data were available with respect to the morbidity burden of the same. There were very few studies available in India and that too in Karnataka. The morbidity burden as we could estimate was far greater in number than the mortality rate. This definitely calls for more attention, research and studies towards morbidity in addition to mortality in unintentional injuries for an effective prevention and reduction of the burden of morbidity in society.

### **CONCLUSION:**

In the present study unintentional injury cases constituted to more than 70% of the injury cases which came to the casualty of our tertiary care centre; with majority consisting of adult males, with a total mortality rate of 12% that too seen in transportation and thermal injuries. Transportation injuries in excessive number in our study suggest that there is need for more strict legislations and implementation of rules, regulations, and safety measures. Though maximum number of cases was that of transportation injuries like in most of the studies, however there were minimal cases involving unintentional poisoning, drowning/ suffocation, firearm injuries as compared to the western population.

Our study is extended in each type of unintentional injuries whereas most of the studies are on the mortality pattern and that too on individual type of unintentional injuries. Thus there was no literature available regarding this type of study in Karnataka and India. Even though our study is compared with various piecemeal studies of others, however the results of each particular type of unintentional injury is nearly similar to others studies.

### **Recommendation and Suggestions:**

Knowing the cause is one of the prime mottos to carry out preventive measures. Similarly for reducing the morbidity and mortality among the victims of unintentional injuries, it is essential to study the cause. Research and experience in the last few decades has shown that injuries are predictable and preventable. Broadly, the interventions could be primary (injuries will not occur at all), secondary (minimize harm in the event of an injury) and tertiary (rehabilitate after an injury) and are aimed at people, products and environment through education, engineering, enforcement and emergency care. To implement these preventive strategies, there is need for policies and programmes that are evidence based and data driven.

### **Preventive measures:**

A major reduction in injury deaths and hospitalizations may be reduced by combined approaches of:

- Strict enforcement of stringent safety laws and regulations,
- Continuous teaching and awareness programs through social media; Increasing awareness in the society to accept safety as a pattern of life.
- Developing combinations of educational strategies, environmental modifications, legislation, and engineering techniques together with improvement of existing data sources by hospital- and population-based studies.
- Setting safety standards and strict implementation for construction of houses, factories, schools and public play areas.

- Careful (especially in kitchen and bathrooms) design of houses with antiskid flooring areas and safer stairs and steps.
- Influencing policies of other sectors (transport, urban development, highway and infrastructure growth) that have an impact on the health of people, as it is vital to understand and convey to the concerned ministries the need to incorporate a health component in all development policies.
- Parental supervision of young children in all places, specially play areas and while playing at home in balconies, staircases etc.,
- Improved safety mechanisms and supervision in public places.
- Strengthening of trauma care systems for early care, and Public awareness activities on importance of following safety standards at home and in workplaces.

A surveillance programme of the present nature provides clues on changing patterns and profiles, identifies broad characteristics and shows directions for programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation, along with identifying areas for further research.

Developing better and sustainable systems of collecting regular injury data is important and needs to go hand in hand with training of human resources personnel who can conduct and analyze such information

## **SUMMARY**

In the present cross sectional study conducted at the casualty of a tertiary care centre, Belgaum for a period of 6 months from October 2011 to march 2012, a total of 753 cases of unintentional injury cases were studied. The aim of this study was to know the pattern of unintentional injury cases with respect to age, sex, domicile, type/ pattern of unintentional injuries, and to study the burden of mortality and morbidity of unintentional injuries in our setup.

A predesigned pretested proforma was used to collect the required data and the details were collected from the relatives, attenders, casualty medical officers, and by examination of the victims in the casualty. Adults constituted the bulk with majority of the case load in the age group of 20-49yrs. Males were the majority with morbidity ratio for male to female being 4:1 and mortality ratio is 2.8: 1. Transportation injuries formed the bulk of the unintentional injuries contributing to 80.87%. The total mortality rate in our study is 12% (91 cases). The major contributors for this mortality were from transportation injuries 57.1% (52 cases). Among the total 609 transportation injuries Majority of the victims were two wheeler rider and pillion riders (58.8%). Most common offending vehicle/ agent involved were Heavy motor vehicles (39.4%). Skeletal injuries 33.8% formed the majority in transportation injures. Fall from height contributed to 7.6% of morbidity and 9.9% of mortality. Head injury formed the majority (68%) in fall cases followed by visceral injuries (45.6%). Thermal injuries contributed to 9.8% of morbidity and 33% of total mortality. Most of the cases were dry burns (59.5%) followed by electrocution (21.6%) and scalds (17.5%). All cases of unintentional poisoning in the study and were encountered in children.

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**INFORMED CONSENT**

Date:

Time:

Place:

**OBJECTIVES AND THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY**

You have been requested to participate in this study titled “STUDY ON PATTERN OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY CASES AT CASUALTY OF A TERTIARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE – A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY.” conducted by Dr BF0111002, Post Graduate student in Forensic Medicine & Toxicology.

I am fully aware that this research, “Study on pattern of unintentional injury cases at casualty of a tertiary health care centre – a cross sectional study” conducted by Dr. BF0111002, is a dissertation topic required for partial fulfillment of her degree in Forensic Medicine and Toxicology (MD). I also understand the importance of such pioneering research work, results of which have got prime importance in studying the factors causing unintentional injuries, and formulate various measures useful in preventing such injuries and deaths.

I am very much aware that Dr. BF0111002, is the chief investigator and this entire project is being done by her along with the help of the casualty medical officers, at her own expense.

Dr. BF0111002 has explained to me the importance of study of the burden of unintentional injuries on our society, more so because these are the ones which can be prevented. Hence by studying the exact numbers, the various factors causing, she will be able to study and propose various protective and preventive measures, which in turn will be very helpful for the welfare of the society.

PROCEDURE:

I have been explained that there is no intervention involved. Only the details of my socio- demographic status will be taken, details of the injuries and the causative agents, circumstances will be taken, by interviewing and the results will be analysed.

POSSIBLE BENEFITS / RISKS:

There are no any extra risks involved in becoming a participant in this study. The method employed for conducting the study is safe and as such are not likely to cause any harm to.

VOLUNTARY PARTICIPATION / WITHDRAWAL:

Your participation in the study is completely voluntary. You are free to withdraw your consent and discontinue your participation in this study anytime.

ALTERNATIVE

The procedure explained to me is one of the simplest one's. I understand that I find no reason whatsoever to withdraw from such a simple study and more over the question of penalty or removal from the study does not arise at all as it is a questionnaire.

PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Dr. BF0111002 has whole heartedly expressed to me that my privacy is a matter of serious concern to her, she has explained to me in very clear terms that no circumstances, however inevitable, she would reveal the data of my study or my identity, by whatever means.

INSTITUTIONAL / SPONSORS POLICY

I totally agree with Dr. BF0111002 view point that even a layman understands that question of injury does not arises in such a noble kind of study.

FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR PARTICIPATION

I am totally conscious that as my investment as participant in the study is just 5 min. of my time in the hospital, I have no right to claim any embursment whatsoever from Dr BF0111002as I have enrolled in this study solely as matter of professional interest and not to have financial or other gains.

CONTACT DETAILS

If any doubts your rights as a study participant you can contact Dr. BF0111002 Post graduate student, Dept of Forensic Medicine, J N Medical College, Belgaum at any time. Also can contact Dr. \*\*\*\*\*, Professor and head, Dept of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, JNMC who is the guide to this study and Dr\*\*\*\*\* Principal, J N Medical College, Belgaum (0831-2471350).

AUTHORIZATION TO PUBLISH RESULTS

As long as my privacy and identity are respected, I fully and voluntarily give consent to publish this research work at any time, across the globe as I consider this a very useful and needed work in the field of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology. Publishing such seminal works is the need of the hour.

I Mr./ Ms.....aged ..... years was first explained about the project in a clear and a very simplest possible way regarding each and every aspect of the project in my own language, all my doubts were cleared and I have personally gone through this written consent form. I am fully aware of my rights as a study participant.

Whatever acceptances, gestures and signatures I make voluntary and totally by my own will.

***Consent form***

---

I give my free and voluntary consent to Dr. BF0111002 postgraduate student at JNMC Belgaum.

Signature or left thumb print of participant or legally authorized representatives

..... Participant's name ..... Participant's signature/  
thumb print

.....Experimenter's name ..... Experimenter's signature

..... Witness's name ..... Witness's signature

..... Guardians name ..... Guardian's signature/ thumb  
print

..... Date

If the patients/ victims are minors (less than 18yrs) the consent of the parents or guardians will be taken.

***STUDY ON PATTERN OF UNINTENTIONAL INJURY CASES AT CASUALTY OF A TERTIARY HEALTH CARE CENTRE***

*-A cross sectional study.*

*Sl.no.*

**I. GENERAL:**

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| <b>1. Name :</b>  | <b>OP/IP.no:</b>                    |
| <b>2. Age :</b>   | <b>MLC: came as/ made MLC</b>       |
| <b>3. Sex :</b>   | <b>Date &amp; time of incident:</b> |
| <b>4. Marital status:</b>   | <b>Date of admission:</b>           |
| <b>5. Address :</b>   | <b>Date of discharge/expiry:</b>    |
| <b>6. Occupation :</b>  | <b>Consent : Y/N</b>                |
| ➤ <b>Unemployed :student/ housewife/ retired</b>                                  |                                     |
| ➤ <b>Employed : agriculturist/ labourer/ service/ professional/ self employed</b> |                                     |
| <b>7. Socio demographic status: urban/ rural</b>                                  |                                     |
| <b>8. Educational status: uneducated/ school/ college/ degree/ post-graduate</b>  |                                     |
| <b>9. Religion : H / M /C</b>   |                                     |

**II. PARTICULARS ABOUT THE INJURY:**

1. <b><u>Transportation injuries:</u></b>	Victim : pedestrian/ pedal cyclist/ motor cyclist-driver,pillion/ LMV/ HMV	Offending vehicle: pedal cycle/ motor cycle/ LMV/ HMV/ train	Mode: self fall: skid/road hump/ ✓ hit to a stationary object: tree/ pole/ barricade/ median/ others ✓ hit by/ to a vehicle:	Injuries
2. <b><u>Fall:</u></b>	Place of occurrence: home/ public place/ working place	Mode: slip /skid /stairs / roof /attic/ ladder/ tree/ poles/ building- 1/2/3/4 floors  Type of floor fallen: smooth/ rough/ stony	If children: cot/ crib/ chair/ furnitures/ wall/ compound	Injuries :
3. <b><u>Poisoning</u></b>	Place of occurrence: home/ public place/ working place	Type of poison: food/ plants/ drugs/ insecticides/ cosmetics/ unknown/ others		
4. <b><u>Thermal injuries:</u></b>		Burns: gas/ kerosene/ inflammable liquids Scalds : water/ oil/ milk/ others Electricity/ lightening	Degree of thermal injuries: superficial/ deep. TBSA: <25/ 25-50/ 51- 75/ 76-100%	
5. <b><u>Drowning/ Suffocation</u></b>	Place of occurrence:	Mode: pit/ sump/ water tank/ well		
6. Others				

**III. OUTCOME OF THE CASES: RECOVERED: OPD/ ward**

EXPIRED:

CAUSE OF DEATH:

**KEY TO MASTER CHART:**

A: Serial number	Y: Yes
B: OPD/ IPD number	L: Light motor vehicle
C: Date of incidence	MV: motor vehicle
<b>Time:</b>	D: driver- motor vehicle
D: 8am- 2pm	P: pillion rider
E: 2pm -8 pm	H: heavy motor vehicle
F: 8pm -8am	PA: passenger
<b>Age:</b>	3W: three- wheeler
G: 1 <sup>st</sup> decade	U: unknown vehicle
H: 2 <sup>nd</sup> decade	T: toppled
I: 3 <sup>rd</sup> decade	A: animal
J: 4 <sup>th</sup> decade	C: pedal cycle
K: 5 <sup>th</sup> decade	SC: spinal cord
L: >6 <sup>th</sup> decade	BA: balcony
M: In Belgaum	PO: pole
N: Out of Belgaum	TR: tree
O: Male	STR: stairs
P: Female	LD: ladder
Q: Hindu	EP: electric pole
R: Muslim	FUR: furniture
S: Others	STE: steps
	S: scalds
	FA: firearm
	BO: bomb explosion

## *Key to Master Chart*

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T: Referred

W: wall collapse

U: Non M.L.C

V: OPD

ABS: abscess

W: Admitted

BC: burst of crackers

X: Expired

LI: lightning

FMILL: flour mill

### **Transportation Injury**

Y: Victim

Z: Offending Vehicle

### **Mode**

AA: Hit by other Vehicle

AB: Skid/Slip

### **Pattern of Injury**

AC: Superficial injury

AD: Visceral injury

AE: Skeletal Injury

AF: Head injury

### **Fall from height**

AG: At home

AH: Public places

AI: Mode

AJ: Height from where fell down

AK: Children

**Pattern of Injury**

AL: Superficial injury

AM: Visceral injury

AN: Skeletal Injury

AO: Head injury

**Poisoning**

AP: Place of Occurrence

AQ: Type of Poison

**Thermal**

AR: Burns

AS: Scalds

AT: Electricity

**Degree of Burns**

AU: Superficial

AV: Deep burns

AW: Total Body Surface Area

**Mechanical Asphyxia**

AX: Drowning place of occurrence

AY: Source of water

AZ: Suffocation

BA: Others

*ANNEXURE-I*  
*CONSENT FORM*

*ANNEXURE-II*  
*PROFORMA*

*ANNEXURE-III*  
*MASTERCHART*









































