

CHIRPP INJURY BRIEF

Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program



INJURIES ASSOCIATED WITH RIDING IN A NON-SEATING AREA OF PICK-UP TRUCKS CHIRPP, 2004-2005 All ages

SOURCE OF THE STATISTICS

Injury data were obtained from the database of the Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP). CHIRPP is an injury surveillance system operating in the emergency departments of 10 pediatric and 4 general hospitals in Canada. Data collection began in April 1990 at the pediatric hospitals and between 1991 and 1995 in the general hospitals. CHIRPP is a program of the Injury and Child Maltreatment Section of the Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division, Center for Health Promotion, Public Health Agency of Canada.

Briefs and reports are updated when there is reason to believe the injuries or circumstances surrounding the injuries have changed. For example, the report of injuries associated with a specific product would be updated if the manufacturing regulations for the product are changed to include a new safety element. There is no need to update reports on a regular basis because the data collection sites are not a representative sample of all Canadian hospitals. Frequent updates would simply increase the number of records included in the report but not necessarily result in any change in the patterns and distributions found.

LIMITATIONS

It is important to note that the injuries described do not represent all injuries in Canada, but only those seen at the emergency departments of the 14 hospitals in the CHIRPP network. Since most of the data comes from the pediatric hospitals, which are in major cities, injuries suffered by the following people are under-represented in the CHIRPP database: older teenagers and adults, who are seen at general hospitals; native people; and people who live in rural areas. Fatal injuries are also under-represented in the CHIRPP database because the emergency department data do not capture people who died before they could be taken to hospital or those who died after being admitted.

INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION CRITERIA

A May 2007 search of the CHIRPP database (all ages, 196,771 records total) for injuries associated with pick-up trucks was conducted. The narratives of these records were searched to identify any of the following text strings: 'TRUCK', 'PICK-UP', and 'CAMION'. This final dataset was then reviewed manually to confirm the cases involved patient riding in a non-seating area of vehicle (i.e. truck bed) while truck was moving. There were 13 cases identified.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

Injury briefs and reports and data from them may be copied and circulated freely provided that the source is acknowledged. The following citation is recommended:

Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division, Public Health Agency of Canada. *Injuries associated with riding in the bed of pick-up trucks: Canadian Hospitals Injury Reporting and Prevention Program (CHIRPP) database, 2004-2005, all ages, 13 records.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact the Injury and Child Maltreatment Section, Health Surveillance and Epidemiology Division, by PHONE at (613) 957-4689, by FAX at (613) 941-9927 or visit our website at <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/inj-bles/>

Overall Pattern

Overall, 13 cases were identified for the 2 year period, which can be expressed as 6.6 cases per 100,000 CHIRPP cases of all types for the given period. This accounts for less than 1% of all motor vehicle traffic accident CHIRPP cases involving a driver or passenger for 2004-2005.

Age and sex distribution

The median age was 16 years, with a minimum age of 6.4 years and a maximum age of 38.8 . There was a preponderance of males (76.9%).

Case descriptions

Cases will be grouped into one of the following categories:

- Child (5-9 years)**
- Youth (10-14 years)**
- Adolescent (15-19 years)**
- Adult (20 years and over)**

Case 1: Patient sitting in back of truck, when driver moved the truck forward causing the patient to fall onto the driveway and suffer a minor head injury. Treated in emergency department, follow-up required only if patient has concerns (follow-up only if necessary). (Child).

Case 2: Patient riding on back of pick-up truck, they fell from the truck to ground and were run over by a utility trailer. Patient suffered an intracranial injury and was admitted to hospital. (Child).

Case 3: Patient was riding on the running board of a truck travelling at a low speed when they fell, obtaining a concussion. Held in emergency department for observation. (Youth).

Case 4: Patient jumped off the back of a moving truck onto ice and was treated for a soft tissue injury to the knee (follow-up only if necessary). (Adolescent).

Case 5: Passenger riding in bed of pick-up truck when truck involved in a motor vehicle traffic crash, causing passenger to be thrown from vehicle. Patient admitted to hospital with a head fracture. (Adolescent).

Case 6: Patient fell from back of moving pick-up truck onto concrete resulting in a head fracture. Admitted to hospital. (Adolescent).

Case 7: Patient riding in back of pick-up truck, fell onto road, and suffered an intracranial injury. Admitted to hospital. (Adolescent).

Case 8: Patient fell from back of moving truck and treated in emergency department for a forearm fracture (follow-up required). (Adolescent).

Case 9: Patient fell from back of moving truck onto the street. Admitted to hospital with a minor head injury. (Adolescent).

Case 10: Patient was riding in back of a pick-up truck travelling fast when vehicle involved in a traffic crash causing the patient to fall onto the asphalt. Patient received treatment for a fractured clavicle (follow-up required). (Adolescent).

Case 11: Patient fell from a truck as the driver alternated between gas and brake. Patient treated for a fracture to the knee (follow-up required). (Adolescent).

Case 12: Patient was riding on the side of a pick-up truck which was travelling approximately 60 km/hour. The truck stopped suddenly, causing the patient to fall out of truck. Patient was admitted to hospital with minor head injuries. (Adult).

Case 13: Patient was riding in back of pick-up truck, travelling at approximately 20 km/hour, when they fell onto dirt surface. Patient treated in emergency department for soft tissue injury to the hand (follow-up only if necessary). (Adult).

Hospital admissions

In total 6 cases were admitted to hospital, there were two head fractures, two minor head injuries and two intracranial injuries.