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STUDY OF VISUAL STATUS IN DRIVERS OF MOTOR VEHICLES INVOLVED IN ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Background*: In low and middle-income countries 50-85% of trauma cases are RTA, posing a significant and unnecessary burden on the healthcare system and drain of medical resources.*

Aim: *To assess the visual status in drivers of motor vehicles involved in RTAs.*

Setting & design: *A prospective cross-sectional study with 100 subjects was done, from all drivers of RTA, at our hospital, between February 2023 to February 2024.*

A pre-tested structured questionnaire was administered to the patients, which included driver's demographic data, duration of driving, previous history of RTA, previous ophthalmic history.

Material and Methods: *A Comprehensive ophthalmological examination was done -*

Visual acuity test, Refraction, Anterior Segment examination, EOM, Colour vision, Visual field assessment, IOP & Fundoscopy.

Statistical analysis & Results: *A total of 100 drivers with RTA were evaluated.*

- *Age-range was 16 to 72 years with mean of 42.1 ± 6.7 years.*
- *6 drivers lacked a driving license and 8 hadn't renewed their DL.*
- *None of the drivers had an eye examination by an ophthalmologist prior to obtaining DL.*
- *37 had refractive errors (31 were newly detected). Only 6 had corrective glasses.*
- *Visual impairment in 21 patients.*
- *Simple Myopia in 18 patients.*
- *7 had unilateral cataract.*
- *3 had monocular blindness –*
- *2 had HMC*
- *1 had near mature cataract*
- *Colour Deficiency in 4 patients.*
- *2 patients had tubular field of vision, were diagnosed with POAG.*