

This was a retrospective cross sectional cost of illness study focusing on the hospital and the household costs of managing commercial motorcycle injuries in Entebbe Municipality, Wakiso district, in 2012. The objectives of the study were; to determine the average direct costs incurred per admission of a victim of commercial motorcycle crashes, to determine the average direct costs incurred per household towards the provision of medical care and support to a household member injured by commercial motorcycle, and to determine the productivity losses incurred per household due to injury of a household member by a commercial motorcycle.

The study was carried out in Entebbe General Hospital and the communities of Entebbe Municipality. A sample of eighty nine (89) respondents comprising of two (2) hospital managers and eighty seven (87) cases of boda-boda motorcycle injuries were selected for the study. The two (2) hospital managers were purposively selected while the eighty seven (87) cases of boda-boda motorcycle injuries were selected from a sampling frame of cases boda-boda motorcycle injuries admitted in Entebbe General Hospital and discharged alive between January and December 2012, using simple random sampling method.

The study estimated the average direct cost per admission of a victim of boda-boda motorcycle injuries at 424,800 UGX (\$170) and the average direct cost and the average productivity losses per household were determined at 617,495 UGX (\$ 247) and 1,379,502 UGX (\$ 551.4) respectively.

The study concluded that motorcycle injuries are associated with unacceptable economic burden and losses to the public health facilities, the victims and their households, and the national economy. Efforts to prevent these injuries will save health and household resources to support other priority needs in the public health facilities and the households of the victims of these injuries.

The study recommended comprehensive enforcement of road traffic and motorcycle safety laws to reduce the incidence of boda-boda motorcycle crashes, introduction of medical insurance cover for the victims motorcycle injuries to reduces cost of managing motorcycle injuries and strengthening the capacity of all hospitals managing injuries to provide adequate medical care to the victims of all road traffic accidents. The study suggests further research on other aspects of economic burden of motorcycle injuries (costs of property damage, pain and suffering, and the cost of administration) and a descriptive cross sectional study on the patronage for traditional bone setters.