

Research letter

Final title: Sociodemographic and neurological profile of patients with spinal cord injury in a trauma hospital in Bangladesh

Title at submission: Socio-demographic and neurological profile of person with traumatic spinal cord injury in Bangladesh: Findings from a trauma hospital



Reviewer D: Anonymous

1. Comment Figure caption incomplete . could be state: "Figure 1. Distribution of ASIA Impairment Scale Grades (A-D) among patients with TSCI (n=182)."

Response Revised as advised (Page 17, line 314-315)

2. Comment The results section provided comprehensive descriptive data. Some results repeat information already in the tables (unnecessary duplication). Multiple percentages do not sum to 100% in a few categories, but this is acceptable where multiple responses are allowed. required explicitly stated.

Response We reduced the text of the results as possible and refer the respective table for further details.

3. Comment Limitations need to be mentioned: No consideration of recall bias in patient interviews, No mention of lack of follow-up or outcome data, No discussion on absence of rehabilitation outcome measures.

Response We added the limitations (page 10, line 204 – 208)

Reviewer E: Iffat Islam Khan, ORCID: 0009-0000-0008-0184

4. Comment Methods are not sufficient . Study of hospital record should be either retrospective or prospective ,that should be well mentioning. Not appropriate and not clear, poor quality.

Response Thank you so much for the valuable suggestion. Basically our study is the cross-sectional study and initially was identified from the hospital records. We have thoroughly revised the methods section to make clear.

5. Comment Cross tabulation between age and gender of the participants was not mentioned.

Response Thank you so much for you valuable suggestion. As we just described the demographic and clinical findings we are comfortable to keep as it is.

6. Comment Age data revealed 106 subject out of total subject 182.Rest of 76 subject frequency category was omitted.

Response This is an unintentional mistake. We have added the 76 data which was age ≥ 50 category.

7. Comment Clinical presentation variable was not appropriate as:

- Absent sensation (which body part was not mentioned)
- Bladder involvement was 100% of the total subject (Either Catheter or incontinence). No patient SCI had normal bladder as study revealed- should have clear mentioning.
- In study difficulties in walking was 4.9%.Rest 95.1% could walk despite 36.8% could not move their lower limbs. It was not clinically accepted and statically not accepted as well.
- Sub-classification of causes of fall from height should have separate column or tabulated.

Response

- We have removed the findings as we haven't recorded specifically
- We have revised in the text
- Our denominator was different and thanks for raising this issue. We have removed difficulty in walking option.
- We have given a separate column chart of sub classification of Fall from tree.

8. Comment We sent our decision, along with a revision request, for a Research Letter on 16 December. However, we have not yet received your response.

May I get it by tomorrow at noon? Let us know if you disagree with our decision. In such a case, we shall decline it to be time efficient.

I appreciate your understanding.

Response Thank you for your comments on our manuscript. I will prepare it as a research letter for your consideration.

Given the depth of the study, the methodology employed, and the statistical analysis conducted, I believe this article is suitable for a research letter format. It is nearly complete and can be submitted for the final review stage within the next two days.

I look forward to your decision.

9. Comment Waiting for your submission soon. A research article will require in-depth analysis (multivariate) and scholarly writing. An inadequate revision of the manuscript for an original article might require another round of review, even rejection. A simple descriptive analysis will never be accepted as an original article by any good journal.

By the time you prepare such a manuscript, the time for the special issue might be over. I guess from your tables that it will not turn suitable for a full length article. However, I shall be looking forward to an acceptable revised version of either type of article.

Response Thank you so much for your reminder. Please allow me today. I shall submit the revised version.

Many thanks for your consideration.