Objective This aimed to identify the determinants of prolonged length of stay in the hospital among victims of road traffic injury.

Methods A retrospective cohort study was conducted. Sociodemographics, accident details (e.g. time of injury, type of victim, other party to the accident, time to admission, intoxication, and helmet use), the Glasgow Coma Score upon admission, head injuries, torso injuries, injuries to the limbs, and length of stay) were abstracted from the patient charts and cleaned accordingly. The predictor model for the determinants of prolonged length of stay in the hospital was built.

Results There were 427 road traffic injury victims that were admitted during the time period considered. The distribution of the time to admission differed between those who have a short length of stay and long stay differed significantly (p<0.01). Glasgow coma score, type of victim, mortality, age, and sex were found to be important determinants of prolonged hospital stay. Those who have a low Glasgow Coma Score (i.e. more severe cases) were found to be 2.77 (95% CI: 1.13–6.91) times more likely to stay longer in the hospital as compared to those who have high Score. There is strong evidence for this association. Passengers are 78% (95% CI: 0.06–0.84) less likely to stay longer in the Hospital as compared to drivers. There is also strong evidence for this association.

Conclusion Based on the predictive model from 427 traffic injury patients, determinants of prolonged hospital stay were identified. Consequent policies and programs should address this.

P.3.23 INCIDENCE RATE AND RELATED FACTORS OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AMONG VETERINARIANS

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Background In South Africa, waste is disposed in landfill sites where waste pickers collect recyclable waste. These informal workers are exposed to various health hazards. However, seeking health care is often determined by the individual’s perception of the status of their health. The objective of this study was to find predictors of health perceptions among waste pickers in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Methods A cross-sectional study was conducted among waste pickers aged 18 years or older, working in major landfill sites in Johannesburg. Information on possible risk factors for health perception were collected. Health perception was defined as very good, good, fair, and poor. Ordinal logistic regression model with landfill sites taken as a cluster variable was done to find factors associated with health perception.

Results A total of 361 participants were included in this study. More than 70% of them were males. Their median age was 31 years (interquartile range (IQR): 27–39). Ever smoked (OR: 1.72; 95% CI: 1.112–2.665), mental ill health risk (OR: 1.87; 95% CI: 2.849), chronic diseases (OR: 2.34; 95% CI:1.479–3.689), and history of infectious diseases (OR: 2.07; 95% CI: 1.779–3.635) were all statistically significantly associated with increased odds of reporting poor health. Participants who reported an injury were less likely to report poor health (OR: 0.53; 95% CI: 0.307–0.911).

Conclusions Predictors for reporting poor health among waste pickers were smoking, chronic and infectious diseases, and mental health risk. However, injuries from cuts showed a decreased odd of reporting poor health. Mitigating these risk factors including health promotion as well as improving primary health care may improve perceptions of good health among waste pickers in SA.