

## Injuries

Chairpersons: E Ward, N Unwin

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#### Patterns of violence-related injuries presenting to the Cornwall Regional Hospital

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**Objectives:** To determine the factors associated with violence-related injuries (VRI) presenting to the Cornwall Regional Hospital (CRH).

**Design and Methods:** Data were collected from the Jamaica Injury Surveillance System (JISS) on all patients presenting to the CRH during April and May 2014. This information was collected at hospital registration from all patients with VRIs after triage in the hospital emergency room.

**Results:** A total of 438 patients presented to the Cornwall Regional Hospital during April and May 2014 with VRIs. Complete data were located for 407 of these patients (93%). Of these, 58% (n = 237) were males and 42% (n = 170) were female. The most common age group presented in the data was 18–29 years (37%) and blunt trauma was the most common method of injury (34%). The most common circumstance surrounding VRIs was a fight (77%) and 43% of persons were injured by an acquaintance. Gang and drug-related VRIs accounted for less than 1% of injuries.

**Conclusions:** The JISS represents an excellent source of data on VRIs in Montego Bay and Jamaica. It allows the creation of a profile of those injured during violence and the surrounding circumstances. Violence might be a common part of interaction between friends and family.

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#### Trends in reported occupational injury claims for Grenada and Dominica

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**Objectives:** To analyse the occupational injury data claims from the Grenada National Insurance Scheme (GNIS) and the Dominica Social Security (DSS).

**Design and Methods:** Permission was sought and received from the Institutional Review Board at St George's University, as well as the directors of the GNIS and DSS to obtain and then analyse their electronic injury claims datasets over the past 10 years.

**Results:** Over the 2005–2013 period, a total of 1396 occupational injury claims were received by the DSS, whereas a total of 4507 claims were received by the GNIS. Injury claims from males significantly outnumbered claims from females. For both islands, most claims came from those within the 20–49-year age range. In Dominica, the Wholesale and Retail sector (246 claims) and Construction sector (235 claims) were the economic sectors from which the highest number of injury claims were reported, while in Grenada, the Construction sector (1076 claims) and the Social and Related Community Services sector (996 claims) had the highest number of claims. Lower limb injuries, fractures and lacerations were the top three occupational injuries claimed for in Dominica, whereas in Grenada, they were trauma, lacerations and fractures.

**Conclusions:** While there was a significant difference in the total number of injury claims filed, with the numbers recorded by the GNIS significantly higher than those recorded by the DSS, the types of injury claims were similar. For both islands, the construction sector yielded the highest number of injury claims.

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#### The economic impact of road traffic fatalities in Jamaica

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**Objective:** To estimate the economic cost of road traffic fatalities in Jamaica

**Design and Methods:** This study used the Gross Output Approach to estimate the economic cost of road traffic fatalities in Jamaica for 2012 and 2013. It entailed

estimating the cost of loss of output, cost of medical treatment, cost of damage to vehicles and other property and administrative cost.

**Results:** The fatalities per accident for 2012 and 2013 were 2.24 and 1.56, respectively. The average age of fatal accident victim is 39 years. With an average retirement age of 64 years, the average productive years lost is 26 years.

Using an annual average wage of \$1 021 488 in 2012 and \$1 060 852 in 2013, the discounted loss of output per fatal crash in 2012 and 2013 is \$42 131 733.1 and \$30 472 454, respectively.

**Conclusion:** Estimates from 2012 and 2013 suggested that loss of output alone from road traffic crashes accounted for \$42 131 733.1 and \$30 472 454, respectively.