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Knowledge on First Aid Management of Injury among Workers at Honda Service Centre**Simran Nakarmi¹ & Bhawana Kandel^{2*}**¹Kirtipur Hospital, Kathmandu, Nepal²Phect Institute of Health Sciences, Kathmandu Nepal

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Abstract

First aid is the initial, emergency care given to anyone with a minor or serious disease or injury, with the goal of preserving life, preventing the condition from getting worst or promoting recovery. The objective of the study was to identify the Knowledge regarding First Aid Management of Injuries among Workers at Honda Service Centers at Kathmandu. A descriptive cross-sectional study design was conducted among 60 Workers of Honda Service Centers. Non-probability purposive sampling technique was used to collect the data. A semi-structured interview schedule was developed to measure the research variable regarding Knowledge regarding First Aid Management of Injuries among Workers at Honda Service Centers. The study was conducted at the Honda Service Center among 60 automobile workers. The result of the study showed that more than half of the respondents 33(55%) had a low level of Knowledge, 11 (18.3%) had a moderate knowledge level and 16 (26.7%) had a higher level of Knowledge. There was no statistically significant association between the socio-demographic variables with level of education, duration of work. The study concluded that more than half of the respondents had a low level of Knowledge on first aid management, and only a few of them had moderate and high levels of knowledge. A larger study could be done among a larger population of different automobile companies for generalization.

Key Words: *Automobile workers, first aid, injuries, level of Knowledge*

Introduction

First aid comprises the immediate evaluation and basic interventions provided by a bystander or the individual affected, typically with minimal or no medical equipment (Goel & Singh, 2008). First aid knowledge refers to the methods and techniques used to prevent and respond promptly to health emergencies. It can be given in various settings, including homes, schools, workplaces, and recreational areas (Kumar et al., 2013).

An occupational hazard refers to any condition or situation that could potentially cause harm to a worker. Among automobile mechanics, four main types of hazards have been identified: chemical hazards, biological hazards, mechanical hazards, and physical hazards (Elenwo, 2018).

Mechanics, panel beaters (auto body repairers), spray painters, auto electricians, welders, radiator repair specialists, brake master cylinder repairers, and bumper repairers are among the auto repair artisans. They provide upkeep and repair services like Welding, painting, and other services (Akowe, 2023; Azuikie et al., 2017).

Automobile workers are vulnerable to injuries and accidents, may face severe accidents resulting in cut, burn, fractures, bleeding, and fainting thus, first aid becomes as important as taking a worker to a medical facility. First aid aims to alleviate pain, promote the healing process, and limit further injury or deterioration. The initial response to injuries or common illnesses often plays a critical role in determining the clinical outcome and the risk of subsequent complications (Goel & Singh, 2008; Markenson et al., 2010). In the global workplace, there were 481,429 deaths in GBD 2010, 159,000 in GBD 2013, and 203,677 in GBD 2015 due to occupational risk factors or accident hazards (Takala et al., 2017).

In Ghana, a study conducted on Occupational health and safety practice among vehicle repair artisans showed that out of 100 vehicle repair artisans, 64% had sustained work-related injuries, primarily from cuts and burns, 78% lacked training in fire safety, 55% practiced self-medication, and 92% were unaware of first aid administration, with firefighting equipment notably absent from the workshops (Monney et al., 2014). Similarly, in Ethiopia, one-year and two-week prevalence of occupational injury were 42.7% (128) and 6.7% (20), respectively. The most common injuries each year were abrasions (32; 10.7%), eye injuries (23; 7.7%), and hand injuries. (38; 12.7%) and eyes (23; 7.7%) were the most frequently injured body parts, and machinery (68; 22.2%) and falling/slipping (19; 6.3%) were the leading causes of injury. The two

most common causes of injury were a lack of safety training (18; 6%) and a lack of personal protective equipment (59; 19.7%) (Damtie & Siraj, 2020).

Similarly, in Uganda, a field observation in 2019 on health and safety procedures in vehicle maintenance workshops found that 70% of workers reported injuries, with burns, hand cuts, and bruises being the most frequent (Serubiri, 2019). In Nepal, a cross-sectional descriptive study across Kathmandu and Bhaktapur found that of the total 505 injury cases, 93 cases (18.5%) were work-related, showing a significant burden of occupational injuries in urban auto repair environments (Joshi & Shrestha, 2009). In relation to awareness about first aid a study conducted among 400 automobile repair artisans in Kathmandu showed that 56% were aware of at least one occupational hazard, with the most common being heat (53%), electric current (52.8%), and chemical exposure (52.5%) (Paudel et al., 2015). A study conducted in Iran among 219 workers showed that the relief workers had an average knowledge score of 56.5% regarding first aid measures (Delavar et al., 2012). Similarly, a survey of 120 registered car mechanics in Lagos State, Nigeria's Surulere Local Government Area revealed that more than 75% of participants were aware of physical hazards (Ozomata et al., 2022).

A cross-sectional descriptive study was carried out in Kathmandu and Bhaktapur, two of Nepal's largest cities. Ninety-three (18.5%) of the 505 injury cases that were reported in the study were work-related (Joshi S K & Shrestha 2009). In 2015, a descriptive study was conducted among automobile repair artisans in Kathmandu Metropolitan City, Nepal, regarding their awareness of occupational hazards and related factors, 56% out of 400 vehicle repair artisans had awareness of the risks associated with their occupation. Personal protection equipment was used by 44.3% of craftspeople. According to the auto repair artisans, the most frequent hazards were heat (53%), electric current (52.8%), chemical (52.5%), light/radiation (52.3%), welding fumes (48.8%), sharp metals/cuts (42%), noise (41%), sparks (17.5%), internal environment (12.8%), and vibration (11.3%) (Marahatta et al., 2018a).

Providing First aid (FA) provision at the workplace during or after an injury may reverse unpleasant effects on the worker's life and health. As a result, a crucial component of occupational health and safety prevention is educating employees in FA. An injured patient can receive adequate and lifesaving care if they have the necessary FA knowledge and training. . (Kumar & Chivukula, 2023).

Recognizing that adequate knowledge among workers can handle emergencies, stabilize an injured individual and support professional medical services upon arrival, this study was

conducted with the objective of assessing the knowledge regarding injury prevention among workers at Honda Crevice Center.

Methods and Materials

Research Design

For this study, a descriptive cross-sectional study design was adopted because it is non-experimental and provides an accurate description of the traits of a person, circumstance, or group as well as the frequency with which a particular phenomenon occurs in a natural setting without imposing any control or manipulation.

Research Area/ Setting.

The research was conducted at selected auto garages authorized by Honda Company of Kathmandu valley, where automobile repairing was done, as there were many incidences of injuries in that work setting. Workers working in these automobile repair shops are from different places of Nepal having diverse socioeconomic and cultural background.

Study Population and Sampling

The workers who were actively engaged in automobile repairing at Honda Service Centers in Kathmandu were the study population for this study. Non-probability purposive sampling technique with the census method was used. The sample size for this study was 60 workers of the Honda crevice center of Kathmandu.

Research Instrument/Tools:

A semi-structured interview schedule was developed to measure the research variable regarding Knowledge on First Aid Management of Injury among Workers at the Honda Service Centre. The questionnaire was developed by researchers in simple and understandable language. The questionnaire was divided in two parts: Part I: Semi-structured questions related to socio-demographic Information. Part II: Structured questions related to first aid management of injury. The tool was developed in the English language and translated it into Nepali language and back translated in English to find out the original meaning of it.

Data Collection Procedure

At first, approval was taken from Syakar Trading Company Pvt. Ltd. (Honda). Data was collected via semi semi-structured interview schedule. It was collected through the face-to-face interview in a working setting. At first, the study purpose and objective were explained and written consent was taken from the respondents. The time for the interview of each Respondent was approximately 25-30 minutes. Data was collected from Kartik 16th to Kartik 26th, 2077.

Ethical Consideration

The approval to perform research was obtained from Syakar Trading Company Pvt. Ltd. (Honda). Informed consent was taken from respondents. The objectives and information of the study were explained in clear and understandable terms to the respondent. Anonymity was maintained by ensuring that no identifying information such as names, addresses, or email addresses, was collected from participants."Anonymity was established by ensuring that no identifying information (e.g., name, address, Email address, etc) was collected from participants and code numbers as 1, 2 ,3 were used. Confidentiality was maintained by not disclosing their information and was used only for research purposes. Human rights and justice of the respondent were maintained during the study without any discrimination of age, ethnicity, and socio-economic condition.

Data Processing and analysis process

SPSS software (Statistical Package for Social Science) version 16 was used to analyze the data. For this study, descriptive statistics (frequency, percentage, and standard deviation) and inferential statistics (chi square chi-square) were used.

Findings of the Study

Based on the study's objectives, responses obtained from participants were analyzed using statistical methods. The results were presented in tabular form in order to facilitate their interpretation.

Table 1*Socio Demographic Characteristics of the Respondents*

Variables	Frequency	Percent %
Age in group		
Young adult(18-35years)	47	78.33
Middle adult(36-60years)	13	21.67
Education		
Can read and write	12	20
Basic	10	16.67
Secondary	16	26.67
Higher education	22	36.67
Duration of employment		
Month (≥ 6 months ≤ 12 month)	8	13.33
Year	52	86.67
Average working hourper day		
3-4hrs	6	10
5-6hrs	5	8.33
7-8hrs	22	36.67
8hrs or above	27	45

Table 1 shows the socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents. Among 60 respondents, all of them were male. Majority of respondents 47(78.33%) were of age group young adult (18- 35years) whereas, 13(21.67%) were in age group middle adult (36-60years). Regarding educational level, 22(36.67%) of the respondents had higher secondary level. In relation to working duration, the majority of the respondents 52(86.67%) had the work experience of 1- 15 years. Likewise, nearly half of the respondents 27(45%) answered the average working hour per day as 8 hours or above.

Table 2*Level of Knowledge regarding First Aid Management of Injuries*

Description	Number	Percentage
Low knowledge level (0-59)	33	55
Moderate knowledge level (60-79)	11	18.3
High knowledge level (60-79)	16	26.7

Table 2 shows the Level of Knowledge regarding First Aid Management of Injuries. More than fifty percent 33 (55%) of the respondents had a low level of Knowledge, 11 (18.3%) of them had a moderate level and 16 (26.7%) of them had a high level of knowledge.

Table 3*Safety Measures Used by Respondents for Prevention of Injury*

Description	Number	Percentage
PPE used to prevent injury*		
Gloves	55	91.6
Masks	47	78.3
Boots	50	83.3
Eye shields	29	48.3

Table 3 shows safety Measures Used by Respondents for the Prevention of Injury. The majority 55(91.6 %) of the respondents, put on gloves, 50 (83.3 %) wore boots, 47(78.3 %) used masks, and 29(48.3) wore eye shields as the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prevent injury while repairing automobiles.

Table 4*Injuries Faced by Workers while Working*

Description	Number	Percentage (%)
Injury suffered while working		
Cut injury	54	90
Burn injury	35	58.3
Fall injury	27	45
Eye Injury	34	56.6
Training received before		
Yes	15	25
No	45	75

Table 4 reveals the injuries faced by workers. A maximum 54 (90%) of the respondents had faced cut injury, 35 (58.3%) suffered burn injury, 27 (45%) faced fall injury and 34 (56.6%) faced eye injury while working. A majority 45 (75%) of the respondents had not received training on first aid management before joining the company.

Table 5*Source of Information regarding First Aid Management*

Description	Number	Percent %
Source of information about first aid		
Newspaper	12	20
Books	32	53.33
Radio	4	6.67
Television	12	20

Table 5 illustrates the source of information regarding First Aid Management, , 32(53.33%) of the respondents answered books, 12(20%) answered newspaper and television, and only 4(6.67%) replied radio as the source of information about first aid management.

Table 6*Association between Socio Demographic Variable and Knowledge Level*

Variable	Low knowledge level	Moderate knowledge level	High knowledge level	Chi- square	P-value
Age in group					
Young adult	25	18	4	1.24	0.54
Middle adult	8	5	0		
Education					
Informal education	7	4	1	6.55	0.37
Primary	8	2	0		
Secondary	8	8	0		
Higher secondary	10	9	3		
Duration of employment					
Month (≥ 6 months, ≤ 12 months)	7	1	0	3.99	0.14
Years	22	26	4		

Table 6 reveals the association between socio-demographic variables and the level of knowledge.

There is no statistically significant association between age, education and duration of employment and the level knowledge.

Key findings

Regarding Socio- demographic information, all 60 respondents were male. Majority of the respondents 47 (78.33%), were young adults (18–35 years), Similarly only 10 (16.67%) of the respondents had Basic level of education. In relation to duration of Employment most of the respondents 52 (86.67%) had worked for 1–15 years. Regarding working hours per day nearly half 27 (45%) of the respondents worked 8 hours or more.

Regarding the level of knowledge on first aid management, more than half 33 (55%) of the respondents had low level of Knowledge.

Regarding safety measures used by the respondents, 55 (91.6%) of the respondents put on gloves, 50 (83.3%) wore boots, 47 (78.3%) used masks and 29 (48.3%) of them used eye shields as personal Protective Equipment to prevent injury.

In relation to injuries experienced by workers, 54 (90%) of the respondents had faced cut injury and only 27 (45%) of them experienced fall injuries.

Regarding association between level of knowledge and sociodemographic information, age, education, and duration of employment showed no statistically significant association with knowledge level, as all p-values were > 0.05 . This means none of these socio-demographic factors significantly influenced first aid knowledge among respondents.

Discussion

The present study was carried out to assess Knowledge on First Aid Management of Injuries among Workers at the Honda Service Center to assess Knowledge on First Aid management of Injuries among Workers at Honda Service Center. All of the respondents in this study were men, and 47 (78.33%) of them were between the ages of 18 and 35. The results of the current study differed with those of a survey conducted in Akure South Local Government, Ondo State, Nigeria, which revealed that the respondents were between the ages of 20 and 50. Regarding work experience, a majority of the respondents 52(86.67%) had the work experience of 1- 15 years which was supported by the same study which showed, the majority had over 15years of working experience (Elemile et al., 2019). Regarding educational level 22(36.67%) of the respondents had higher secondary level of education which is in contrast with the study findings of UMOH et al., 2023 which showed that one hundred and thirty-eight (59.23%) had junior high school. Regarding training, a majority of the respondents 45 (75%) had not received training on first aid management which was supported by the study conducted in Ghana, which showed that 78% of the artisans lack training (Monney et al., 2014). This finding of the present study was also supported by the study done in Greece which showed that 196 respondents have never have a formal training on first aid (group B) (Hatzakis et al., 2005).

In addition, injuries faced by workers in the present study maximum 54 (90%) of the respondents had faced cut injury, 35 (58.3%) suffered burn injury, 27 (45%) faced fall injury and 34 (56.6%) faced eye injury while working. These findings were supported by a research that used field observation to examine health, safety, and environmental processes in a motor vehicle maintenance workshop. The study revealed that all activities and equipment present a variety of

risks and hazards, with 70% of the workers reporting injuries. The most common injuries reported were burns, hand cuts, and bruising (Serubiri, 2019). The results of the current study were also supported by a survey conducted in India, where 63% of workers reported workplace injuries in the previous year. The most common injuries recorded were burns, bruising, cuts, and piercing items. The primary body parts injured were the hands and fingers (Vyas et al., 2011). This result was also supported by a research conducted in Ghana, which revealed that 64% of the craftspeople had suffered burns and cuts at work (Monney et al., 2014).

In the present study regarding the safety measures used, majority 55(91.6 %) of the respondents, put on gloves, 50 (83.3 %) wore boots, 47(78.3 %) used masks, and 29(48.3 %) wore eye shields as the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to prevent injury while repairing automobiles this result was in contrast with the study results done in Ghana, showed that use of PPE (27%) and proper hand hygiene practices (28%; N = 98) are generally ignored by the artisans posing possible health risks (Monney et al., 2014). In relation to source of information, more than half of the respondents, 32(53.33%) answered books as source of information this finding was in contrast with the study finding of study done in India showed that majority of the samples 20 (33.3%) were getting information from mass media (Dwivedi, 2018).

In terms of knowledge, 33 respondents (55%) had poor knowledge, 11 respondents (18.3%) had moderate knowledge, and 16 respondents (26.7%) had high knowledge. This result was supported by research conducted in Ghana, which revealed that local garage workers knew a little bit about safety precautions (Akple et al., 2014). In-contrast, research conducted in Nepal revealed that 56% of respondents were aware of occupational hazards (Marahatta et al., 2018b) and also in contrast with the findings of the study done in India which showed that knowledge related to Management & Prevention of industrial accidents is 48% (Dwivedi, 2018) also in contrast with the study finding of the study, the finding showed that most participants had a poor knowledge level (87.5 %) (Minani et al., 2024). Similarly, regarding the causes of injury, 44(73.3%) respondents answered improper handling of equipment as the cause of injury, 33(55%) answered equipment, 28(46.6%) replied chemicals and 19(31.6%) answered environment as the causes of injury, the study on awareness of occupational hazards and related factors among automobile repair artisans in Kathmandu Metropolitan City supported these findings. According to the artisans, heat (53%) was the most common hazard, followed by electric current (52.8%), chemical (52.5%), light/radiation (52.3%), welding fumes (48.8%), sharp metals/cuts (42%), noise (41%), sparks (17.5%), internal environment (12.8%), and vibration (11.3%) (Marahatta et

al., 2018b). In the present study, there was no association between the socio-demographic variables (age, level of education, duration of work) of the respondents and the level of knowledge of the respondents. The finding was in contrast with the study finding of the study done in Egypt, showed that workers' awareness was strongly correlated with their educational attainment, age group (> 35 years old), length of employment, and prior safety procedure training (Zalat & Shetta, 2012) as well as in contrast to the results of a study conducted by Monney et al., 2014, which revealed that respondents' marital status ($P=0.014$) and the type of work ($P=0.037$) were found to be significantly associated with the incidence of physical injury, in contrast to their level of education ($P=0.874$) and work experience ($P=0.203$) (Monney et al., 2014).

Conclusion and Recommendation

The present study was done to assess Knowledge on First Aid Management of Injuries among Workers at the Honda Service Centre. All of the respondents were male. More than half of the respondents were in the young adult age group, and nearly half of them had received higher education. The majority of them had been working there for years. Among the respondents, only few of them had received training on first aid management before joining the company. The study concluded that more than half of the respondents had a low level of knowledge on first aid management and only a few of them had moderate and higher levels of knowledge. Also, there was no association between the socio-demographic variables (age, level of education, duration of work) and the level of knowledge of the respondents. As the sample of the study is limited only to workers of one company, it is recommended that further research should be done among the workers of different companies with a larger sample and the study among different companies could be compared.

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