

## Road Traffic Accidents and Associated Risk Factors in Erbil, Iraq: Retrospective (2017-2019) Households Based Study

Hayman Mohammed Saeed Rashid, BSN, MSc\* Kameran Hassan Ismail, MBChB, MSc, PhD\*\*

### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Road traffic accidents (RTAs) are of major concern to the general public in the world. Annually 1.3 million people die from highways, and the rate of these accidents is higher in adolescent and males. A number of factors contribute to the increase in these accidents, including the type of vehicle and its speed, the quality of roads, weather and driving skills. As well as influencing factors, including alcohol or medication, and behavior, especially aggressive driving, distracted driving, impulsiveness and street athletics, this study aimed identifying the prevalence pattern of road traffic accidents (RTAs) in Erbil city between 2017-2019.

**Methods:** A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted in six municipalities chosen from 37 district of Erbil, and 3743 persons made direct randomly interview in each process of the study from March -15th November 2021. Using Chi-Square detect the association between sociodemographic features and previous road traffic accidents victim at level of significance of  $p < 0.05$ .

**Results:** Out of 3743 individual 675(18%) had been made road accident, the year 2019 reported highest rate 313(46.4%) of street accidents, in Summer 265(39.3%), significant association founded between previous road accidents and gender, marital status, educational level and occupation, male single, student young age highest rate reported of accidents. Finally, the most causes factors of road accident were reported distraction 153 (22.7%) followed by careless nearly by one-fifth 133(19.7%).

**Conclusion:** A significant association founded between human behavior (distraction, careless), sociodemographic features (age, gender, marital status, education, and occupation) and road traffic accidents.

**Keywords:** : Road, Accidents, Study, Erbil

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\* Department of Community Medicine  
College of Medicine  
Hawler Medical University  
Iraq. E-mail: hemen.rashid@alqalam.edu.iq

\*\* Department of Community Medicine  
Professor at the College of Medicine  
Hawler Medical University  
Iraq