Reviewer’s report

Title: Trauma burden in Tanzania: A one-day survey of all district and regional public hospitals

Version: 0 Date: 26 Jun 2017

Reviewer: David Peran

Reviewer's report:

Thank you for inviting me to review this article. I found the following when reviewing the manuscript:

Introduction

Paragraph 1

I propose to align the terminology about road traffic collision, because the article is using more than one.

"Many different terms are commonly used to describe vehicle collisions. The World Health Organization use the term road traffic injury,[4] while the U.S. Census Bureau uses the term "motor vehicle traffic collision" (MVTC).[5] and Transport Canada uses the term "motor vehicle traffic collision" (MVTC).[6] Other common terms include auto accident, car accident, car crash, car smash, car wreck, motor vehicle collision (MVC), personal injury collision (PIC), road accident, road traffic accident (RTA), road traffic collision (RTC), road traffic incident (RTI) (…) Some organizations have begun to avoid the term "accident"." (Reference: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Traffic_collision)

Paragraph 3

A simple description of the health system in Tanzania in relation to Europe but I would suggest adding some basic demographic information about Tanzania (e.g. population, area…). It might be helpful when trying to imagine how the hospitals work and which amount of patient they are dealing with.

Methods - Study Setting
All district and regional hospitals of Tanzania mainland of were …

Methods - Study Protocol

The limitation of the methodology can be seen in that the data were collected by different authors even when they all had used the same protocol (which is not included). My suggestion is to write down which author was collecting which region. The "data collection sheet" might be described and maybe even annexed.

Discussion

Paragraph 2, line 26

(…) complicated by the fact that only few domestic animals (…)

Paragraph 4, line 10

(…) we believe that (…)

I propose to avoid this kind of speculation, the sentence started with "believe", because the rest of the manuscript is well written and all the thoughts and results are evidence based. You can use the information or data from the Reynolds TA et al (2012) to support the results and refer to them.

Limitations

The data collection by different health care professionals might be also a limitation, as I wrote above.

Conclusion

Brief and clear recommendation that corresponds to the text.
Table of results

The tables are formatted cleanly, complement the text and support author's claims.

Summary

Overall, this one-day survey is well-written, thorough, and can start tracking and analysing other parameters of care in Tanzania. The methodology is sound (but needs to be more described) and the results are clear.

I thank the authors for their work on this manuscript and for the opportunity to provide these comments.

Are the methods appropriate and well described?
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I am able to assess the statistics

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable
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