

Peer Review File

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Reviewer A

The paper looks well written but has some unusual citations in the Introduction section, which I have requested authors to review and revise. On the basis of following comments, I recommend for major revision.

General comment

1. Authors are suggested to avoid using the term "Accident" while referring a "road traffic crash" or "road traffic injury." For details, please refer Davis and Pless, 2001 <https://www.bmj.com/content/322/7298/1320>

Reply 1: we have revised the word "Accident" with "road traffic crash".

Introduction

2. The opening sentence of Introduction section could be strengthened by citing at least one global level literature i.e. Global Status Report on Road Safety by the World Health Organisation. Currently cited all 4 studies have different objectives than measuring global burden of road injuries.

Reply 2: the 2018 Global Status Report on Road Safety by the World Health Organisation has been cited.

3. Reference 1, cited in the second statement is also inappropriately used. Please use original literature source.

Reply 3: The original source has been added to the document World Health Organization. Global status report on road safety 2018 [Internet]. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2018 [cited 2023 Jun 5]. 403 p. Available from: <https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/276462>

4. Similar is the case for the third statement. The references 5-8 have specific scope and do not tell the magnitude and age specific incidence of road injuries globally. The papers cited here might have used the original literature, please use them.

Reply 4: The original source has been cited in the introduction.

5. The references 1-10 used in the first and second paragraphs of Introduction section need to be replaced by the original literature, in particular and some other places. Currently cited ones do not match the statement made by the authors.

Reply 5: The original source has been cited in the introduction.

6. The same references used in the latter two paragraphs look good as the authors summarise the situation of Emergency response systems and services in Nigeria.

Reply 6: Noted, no changes made

Methods

7. Study location: please review the sentence; either it is July 2022 to March 2023 or something else.

Reply 7: The research was between July 2022 to March 2023

Changes in the text: We have added the year to the duration of the research. (see page 6, Line 131).

8. Study population: according to the socio-demographic data of the participants, it looks like the participant selection was limited to a certain group of people who were already identified of being involved in road crashes. It also looks like the population was not "general public". Please clarify.

Reply 8: The research was not limited to any group of people. The socio-demographic data were refined to ensure we do not miss out on any group in Nigeria. We only ensure to include those above 18 with a Skip pattern i.e those who are below were automatically excluded.

9. Authors are requested to describe the approaches they applied to send the "web-based" link for the study, how many were listed how? for example: Facebook groups, WhatsApp groups they used and their memberships etc.

Reply 9: Each of the author shared the link to their network of about 10 individual groups and posted on their Facebook story. Also, in a bid to reach a greater and diverse audience, authors subscribe to paid advertisements on Facebook and Email

Changes in the text: "With each author sharing the link within 10 individual groups and their Facebook story. Also, in a bid to reach a greater and diverse audience, authors subscribed to paid advertisements on Facebook and Email for the data collection process. The link to the survey was shared between 1st October 2022 till January 29th 2023" (see page 6, Line 150 to 156).

10. Sample size: Please correct the typo; it is not "Cochrane!" it must be Cochran. Also provide the reference.

Reply 10: We have corrected it

Changes in the text: Cochran

11. Instruments and data collection: The author mention "semi-structured" questionnaire, which is more likely to be used to collect qualitative information. The results section does not provide any qualitative findings. Therefore, the term "semi-structure" sound redundant. Similarly, in lines 153, the authors mention "Project Members", was it "enumerators" or is this study linked to a project. Please verify.

Reply 11: This research was not linked to any project.

Changes in the text: The term "semi-structure" has been removed while "Project Members" has been changed to "Authors".

12. Line 159, "bio-data", I think the authors refer "demographics" please review.

Changes in the text 12: The term "bio-data", I think the authors refer "demographics" (see page 6, Line 159).

Discussion:

13. The authors are requested to review this section and compare the socio-demographic composition with the national population structure. This will help readers to understand generalisability of the results.

Reply 13: This information has been added to the discussion section.

Changes in the text: This age-group represent part of the larger proportion of the national population in Nigeria according to the data released in 2021 (53.73%) (see page 10, Line 250 to 252).

References:

I suggest authors to look author listing carefully in the list of references. I picked the two references randomly and found errors in Author listing. For example articles 16 and 30 should look like:

16. Oruonye ED, Anikemuah D, Ahmed YM. Challenges of Emergency Management in Nigeria: A Case Study of Federal Capital Territory (FCT) (FEMA). Int J World Policy Dev Stud [Internet]. 2021 Jul 11 [cited 2022 Dec 4];(73):35–44. Available from: <https://arpgweb.com/journal/11/archive/09-4262021/3/7>

30. Patel RK, Kermansachi S, Namian M. ASocioeconomic-Based Analysis of Disaster Preparedness, Awareness and Education. In: Proceedings of the Creative Construction eConference 2020 [Internet]. Online: Budapest University of Technology and Economics; 2020 [cited 2022 Dec 16]. p. 76–84. Available from: <http://hdl.handle.net/10890/13469>

Reply: We have checked and revise the reference list.

Reviewer B

The subject of the study is current and relevant and discuss aspects that can improve safety. But requires revision. I will describe some points of improvement.

Method:

Although the number of patients exceeded that of the sample size estimation, as it was a web study, the sample could be larger. Were there difficulties? The understanding of the English language as inclusion criteria was a problem or internet access?

I suggest to include the inclusion criteria (Page 6, lines 154 and 155) in the section of study population.

All questionnaires have been fully answered? Or those incomplete were excluded?

Reply: This research was web-based. The use of English was as a result of internet access. The inclusion criteria have been included in the manuscript. The incomplete data were excluded from the analysis.

Changes in the text: The inclusion criteria for respondents' eligibility include those more than 18 years old, and an understanding of the English language due to the nature of the web-based study (see Page 6, lines 155 and 156).

Results:

The percentage of medical professionals in this sample is high. As suggestion, the data in table 2 could be presented separately, medical professionals and non medical. The bias could be minimized. I'm surprised with the data of table 4, about "awareness of emergency response service in Nigeria" 43% of individuals answerd "No". Is it correct? What can this fact be attributed to?

Reply: The data of medical professional and non medical is 20.9% and 33.0% respectively. Concerning the "awareness of emergency response service in Nigeria" 43% of individuals answerd "No". This can be attributed to little or no effective service in Nigeria.

Limitations of the study:

The authors stated that the study only assessed the utilization rate among the general populace who have either been a victim or experienced RTA (Page 13, lines 338 and 339). This information is not clear in method.

Reply: As a way to assess those who have utilized emergence service, questions were asked among only those who have either been a victim or experienced RTA.