

## Original Paper

# Prevalence of intra abdominal injuries due to penetrating trauma in Gorgan, Iran (2002-07)

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### Abstract

**Background and Objective:** Trauma is the most common cause of death in all individuals between 1 and 44 years and the third most common cause of death regardless of age. The abdomen is the third most commonly injured region of the body. Some intra abdominal organ injured more than others, related to mechanism of injury, size and location of organ in abdominal cavity. This study was carried out to determine the prevalence of intra abdominal injuries due to penetrating trauma.

**Materials and Methods:** This retrospective descriptive study was done on 114 patients admitted to 5 Azar hospital in Gorgan, Iran due to penetrating abdominal trauma during 2002-07. Gender, age, type of injury causes of trauma and hospitalization period were obtained from patients files.

**Results:** 92.1% of patients were male. The mean age of subjects was 24.8 years (9-70 years) with highest frequency between 20-24 years. Two (1.8%) deaths directly related to abdominal stab wounds related to hemorrhagic shock. The most common cause of penetrating abdominal injury was knife wound (78.9%). The mean time spent in hospital was 4.6±2.8 days. In 53 patients, cause of trauma were either related to penetration into peritoneum or passing through in. Small intestine injuries (14 %), rupture of diaphragm and concurrent lung injuries (7%) were the common damage organs.

**Conclusion:** This study showed that the knife was the main cause of abdominal penetrate trauma and peritoneum was the most common damage tissue.

**Keywords:** Penetrating Trauma, Abdomen, Small intestine, Peritoneum, Diaphragm, Gender

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