Dear editor:

One of the most important health problems of the current world, particularly developed countries, is the disabilities caused by trauma, which is the fourth leading cause of death worldwide [1]. Studies have shown that traffic accidents are also a major health concern in the Middle East. Countries in this part of the world especially densely populated Iran are at high risk with considerable mortality and morbidity rates [2, 3, 4].

In one epidemiologic study of road traffic accidents in Qom province, it has been shown that the majority of victims were male (82.6%) and only 17.4% were female. This finding is due to the fact that males between 24-50 get higher employment opportunities and nature of their jobs makes them participate more in social activities with probable relation to traffic accidents. Several other studies have previously reported the same issue. Every day huge number of accidents occurs at 12:00-2:00 pm causing emergency rooms in the afternoon shifts encounter with a big number of trauma patients leading to mortality and morbidity rates [5, 6].

Another study in Fars province reported a great number of accidents took place from 4-7 am to 8-11 am (beginning of workday and opening school), and the other from 8-11 to 12-15 o’clock (ending of the day and closing school) [7,8].

A study performed in Switzerland, a highly populated country, which itself has one of the longest life expectancies in the world reported an admission of 1599 trauma patients over the 5 years most of them were male with the average age of 41.4 years and median injury severity score (ISS) of 13. Rate of ISS>15 was 42%. Road traffic (40.4%) and falls (34.4%) were the two main causes of injury. Overall, 29.1% underwent immediate intervention, by visceral surgeons (13.9%); neurosurgeons (26.3%) and orthopedists (27.3%), 43.8% underwent a surgical intervention within the first 24 hours and 59.1% during their hospitalization. In-hospital mortality for patients with ISS >15 was 26.2% [9, 10, 11, 12].

References
6. Rouhezamin MR, Paydar S, Hasirbaf M, Bolandparvaz S,


10. http://www.bfs.admin.ch/bfs/portal/de/index/themen/14/03/01/key/01.html, [Last accessed on 2013 November 8].
