

Factors Predicting Injury Outcome in Critical Phase among Adults with Traumatic Injuries*

Amnarj Katsakun, M.N.S.**

Orapan Thosingha, D.N.S.***

Prangtip Chayaput, Ph.D. (NURSING)***

Abstract: Shock index is an important injury outcome assessment, in the critical phase, in order to provide life support for adult patients with a traumatic injury to protect them from life threatening conditions. Injury outcome varies with injury severity and post-injury physiological response.

This research aimed at studying the factors predicting injury severity, post-injury physiological response, and the levels of oxygen saturation to the injury outcome in the critical phase among adults with traumatic injuries. The samples were 78 traumatic injured patients triaged as emergent and highly emergent patients. The research instrument comprised of demographic records, oxygen saturation level records, injury severity records, post – injury physiological response records, and injury outcomes in the critical phase. The analysis of data was carried out using multiple regression at a significance level = 0.05.

The traumatically injured patients were male (92.3%) with an average age of 33.62 years, mostly with blunt injuries, and were triaged as emergent patients (55.1%). The study showed that post-injury physiological response (RTS), injury severity (ISS), and level of oxygen saturation could together explain 37.6 % of the variance of the injury outcome ($R^2 = .376$, $p < 0.05$). The significant predictors of the injury outcome were post - injury physiological response and injury severity only.

The recommendation of this study was that all traumatically injured patients should have injury severity and physical response assessments on admission, including a shock index, to provide prompt life support to rectify the life threatening problem in time.

Keywords: Trauma patient, Injury severity, Post- injury physiological response, Injury outcome, Shock index

*Thesis of Master Nursing Science (Adult Nursing), Faculty of Nursing, Mahidol University

**Professional Nurse, Emergency and Accident department, Lerdsin Hospital, Bangkok, Thailand

***Assistant Professor, Faculty of Nursing, Mahidol University, Thailand

Corresponding Author ; Amnarj Katsakun M.N.S. and Orapan Thosingha D.N.S.

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