

Incidence of Right Sided Sensorineural Hearing Loss in Heavy Vehicle Drivers

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Abstract:- In heavy vehicle drivers the incidence of right sided sensorineural hearing loss has become more common due to increase in noise pollution in the highways and roads . This study is conducted to confirm the relation between the noise pollution experienced by the drivers on one side of the ear due to open windows and the incidence of sensorineural hearing loss on the same side.

Keywords:- Sensorineural Hearing Loss, Pure Tone Audiometry ,Hospital, Ear Problems.

I. INTRODUCTION

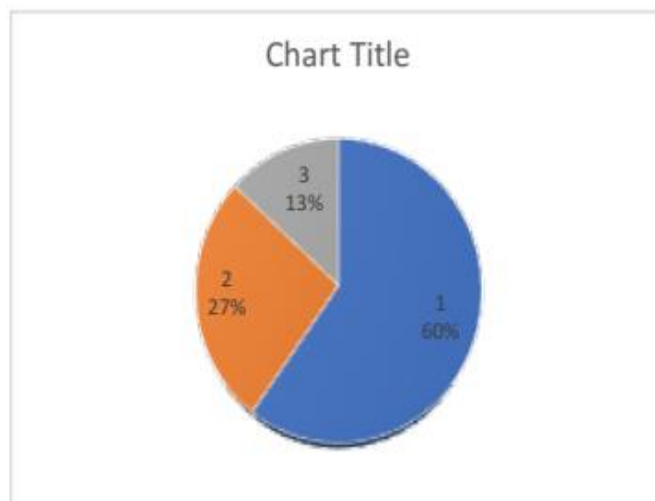
Noise induced hearing losses one side of the ear has become very common in heavy vehicle drivers due to exposure of noise on one side of the ear. It is more widespread in heavy vehicle drivers than revealed by conventional pure tone audiometry test. It is avoidable if diagnosed early and taken appropriate measures. Heavy vehicle drivers due to exposure of noise on one side can lead to single side sensorineural hearing loss on-a single side of the ears . [1][3][5]

II. MATERIALS AND METHODOLOGY

A research was conducted at a time span of 3 months from January 2019 to March 2019 in a private medical institution in south India. The sample includes 60 patients who was occupied as heavy vehicle drivers in the institution. These heavy vehicle drivers had gone through a pure tone audiometry test to diagnose if they had sensorineural hearing loss. Ethical clearance was obtained from the Institutional Ethics Committee of Saveetha Medical College and Hospital, Chennai. Data were entered in Microsoft Excel 2013 and statistical analysis was done.[4][2][6]

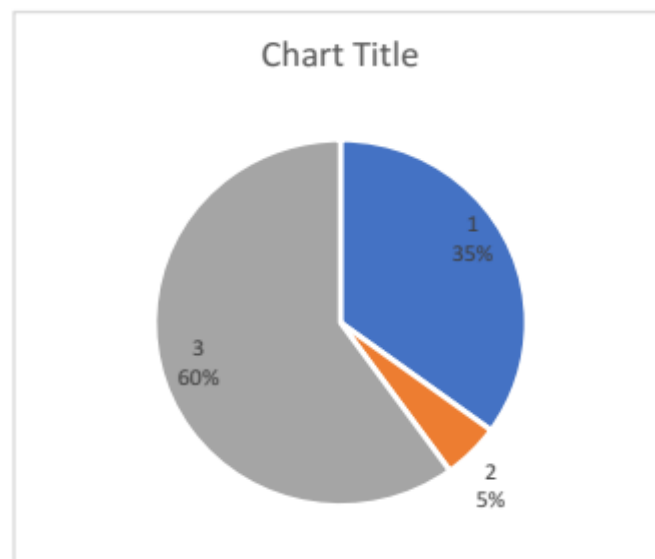
III. RESULTS

➤ Pie chart 1: Pie chart 1 shows the ratio of the degree of hearing loss of the sensorineural type in heavy vehicle drivers of which was 60% of the normal type with no hearing difficulties and 27% of the slight type in which speech understanding is not affected and 13% is of the mild type in which speech understanding is reduced.



Pie Chart 1: Degree of hearing loss (n= 60)

➤ Pie chart 2: Pie chart 2 shows the ratio of the side of hearing loss in the heavy vehicle drivers according to pure tone audiometry results. According to the research 60% were of normal type and did not have any side hearing loss and of the patients with hearing loss right ear was of 35% and left side was of 5% .



Pie Chart 2: Side of hearing loss (n=60)

IV. CONCLUSION

- A) 60% of the drivers had normal hearing capacity while 27% of the heavy vehicle drivers had slight hearing loss in which speech understanding is not affected and 13% of the heavy vehicle drivers had mild hearing loss in which speech understanding is affected.
- B) 60% of the heavy vehicle drivers had normal hearing in both the ears while 35% had right sided hearing loss and 5% had left sided hearing loss.

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