Title: The Manchester Driver Behavior Questionnaire: a cross-cultural study in Iran

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Abstract: Background: This overgrowing traffic density has resulted in an increased trend in road traffic crashes that has created a serious challenge for public health workers. Seat belts are effective safety devices used to protect car occupants from severe injuries and fatalities during road vehicle accidents. Despite the proven effectiveness of seat belts, seat belt use rates are quite low, especially in developing countries, such as Iran. The aim of this study was to determine the factors that affect driving and test the psychometric properties.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional survey. The study collected the information on socio-demographic characteristics of drivers such as age, gender, educational level, occupation status, driving experience, car type, and seat belt use. Using the Manchester Driver Behavior Questionnaire (DBQ) in the students in Shiraz University of Medical Sciences. A specially designed data collection form was used to collect the socio-demographic data, driver behavior and DBQ items. The second part of the questionnaire included some questions about the driver behavior while driving such as violating red traffic signal indication, smoking, the use of mobile phone and etc.

Findings: The data were collected from 156 respondents (67 men and 89 women university students). The mean age of the samples was 23.22 years and 52.56% had a driving license. There were no significant differences between males and females with respect to the use of seat belts. The results showed that use of seat belts was as following: 45.5% always, 44.2% often, 2.6% seldom and 3.2% never. Eating and drinking behavior was as following: 3.2% always, 14.7% often, 57% seldom and 25% never and talk with phone was as following: 1.9% always, 18.6% often, 52.5% seldom and 26.9% never.

Conclusions: The results of this survey demonstrated the increased risk of road traffic crashes amongst young male and female groups. This distinction was critical for understanding the behavior of each of the three identified subgroups of drivers, and for planning the appropriate interventions to promote safe driving.

Manchester Driver Behavior Questionnaire, Iran, Student

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