INTRODUCTION

- 45% of all accidents involve pedestrians.
- More attention needs to be given to pedestrians in South African policy.
- Some factors influencing pedestrian accidents include the weather, walkways, lighting, safety and high vehicle traffic.

AIM OF THIS STUDY

To create and pilot a South African specific tool for assessing the pedestrian environment.

METHODS

- Study was conducted in Pretoria, Gauteng environment.
- Examined existing pedestrian environment assessment tools.
- Compiles a South African specific environment assessment tool.
- Pilot the tool at five selected sites in Pretoria.

RESULTS

- Five sites were selected using random sampling, specifically quota policy sampling, from two police stations with the highest number of pedestrian fatalities.
- Examined existing pedestrian environment assessment tools.
- Piloted the tool at five selected sites in Pretoria.

Table 1: South African Pedestrian Environment Assessment Tool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traffic safety</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perception</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surveillance</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pavement</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting</td>
<td>10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Roadside constructions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public transport</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle parking restrictions</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 1: A South African Pedestrian Environment Assessment Tool has been created and piloted as a first step towards a holistic approach to improve the pedestrian environment.

Figure 2: The two police stations used are shown here in blue with yellow stars, as well as the five sites, shown here with red dots with black stars. (Original map taken from Google maps.)

Figure 3: Lack of pedestrian facilities.

Figure 4: Pedestrian waiting for public transport in an unsuitable environment.

Figure 5: Pedestrians running across the road where no form of pedestrian crossing is present.

Figure 6: Pavement with signage for drivers regarding pedestrians.

Figure 7: Poor pedestrian environment.

Figures 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7: These images illustrate various aspects of pedestrian environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- The results from this pilot study are useful to conduct a full study of this nature.
- Obtain more accurate and detailed accident data with regard to locations and all accidents not limited to fatalities.
- Include night time assessments.
- Better safety for researchers during day and night.
- Test intra- and inter-rater reliability.

CONCLUSION

- Showed the use and need for a Roadside Environment Assessment Tool as created in this study.
- This tool is the first of its kind in South Africa: a future study could modify and extend the tool to make it more effective.
- Need holistic approach with environmental and behavioural factors for better protecting pedestrians.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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REFERENCES


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