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 PANTIP SANGPRASERT : THE FACTORS RELATED TO THE PREVENTIVE
 BEHAVIORS OF ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES DUE TO MOTORCYCLE RIDING
 AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN BANGKOK. THESIS ADVISORS : USAPORN
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At present, there is a marked increase in the number of deaths and injuries involving adolescents in motorcycle accidents. It is believed that this death and injury rate can be decreased through the introduction of an informative education program. This research study looked at the current preventative behaviors practiced by adolescents in relation to accidents and injuries sustained whilst riding a motorcycle. The target group age-range coincides with the age-range of students attending vocational educational colleges. 276 adolescents from 4 technical colleges of vocational education, were selected as the sample group. Questionnaires, containing a range of multiple choice questions requiring responses on the predisposing, enabling and reinforcing factors were distributed. Pearson's product moment correlation coefficient was used to test the relationship between the predisposing, enabling and reinforcing factors and the preventive behaviors, with a level of reliability of 99%.

Conclusions from this study show that of the three levels of adolescents behavior (good, fair and poor) 52.5% of the sample displayed a fair level of behavior concerning the prevention of accidents and injuries whilst riding a motorcycle. Predisposing factors of knowledge and attitude concerning the prevention of accidents and injuries whilst riding a motorcycle, showed a positive relationship to preventive behaviors, with a level of significance of .01 and with a moderate level knowledge of 63.8%. Enabling factors for this study were composed of: (1) the roadworthy condition of the motorcycle, which had a positive relationship with preventive behaviors, and a level of significance of .01 (2) years of riding experience and (3) Alcohol and drug consumption, which showed a negative relationship with preventive behaviors, with a level of significance of .01. Other factors include accident experience and commuting distance, which showed a nonrelationship to preventive behaviors with a level of significance of .01. Reinforcing factors used in this study were: receiving information and advice on accident prevention and injuries sustained whilst riding a motorcycle. These showed a positive relationship to preventive behaviors, with a level of significance of .01.

The results of this study will benefit college nurses, health teachers, transportation authorities, traffic police and others who promote accident prevention knowledge and advise and educate adolescents in communities, on ways to improve and promote preventive behaviors concerning accidents and injuries sustained whilst riding motorcycles.