

Addendum to “Homicide Injury Quantification: Correlations and Reliability of Injury Severity Scores Applied to Homicide Victims.”

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Table 1. Results of the Injury Severity Scores With Corrected Values for the AIS-Based Scores (With the Previous Values in Parentheses).

	<i>M</i>	Median	Minimum	Maximum	<i>SD</i>
ISS (interval scale, range 0-75)	34 (31)	27 (26)	10 (1)	75 (75)	18 (20)
NISS (interval scale, range 0-75)	44 (41)	43 (41)	11 (1)	75 (75)	18 (21)
SAIS (interval scale, range 0-infinity)	47 (46)	35 (33)	6 (5)	241 (238)	39 (39)
ICISS (interval scale, range 0-1)	0.60	0.61	0.092	0.94	0.20
HIS (ordinal scale, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)	3.6	3	1	6	1.1
TNI (interval scale, range 0-infinity)	22	18	1	91	22

Note. ISS = Injury Severity Score; NISS = New Injury Severity Score; SAIS = Sum of Abbreviated Injury Scale; ICISS = International Classification of Disease Injury Severity Score; HIS = Homicide Injury Scale; TNI = Total Number of Injuries.

We have discovered an error in our article “Homicide Injury Quantification: Correlations and Reliability of Injury Severity Scores Applied to Homicide Victims” (Tamsen, Klötz Logan, & Thiblin, 2015). In the “Discussion” section, we claim that the Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) does not contain a code for asphyxia. This was true for previous versions of the AIS, but in the one we used (AIS 2005-update 2008), asphyxia has been added and has a score of 3 to 5 depending on associated symptoms (Gennarelli & Wodzin, 2008).

Not realizing this in our study caused the cases with asphyxia to get a too low value in the AIS-based injury severity scores, namely, the Injury Severity Score (ISS), the New ISS (NISS), and the Sum of AIS (SAIS). Of the 103 included cases, 14 had been suffering from asphyxia. When correcting the scores, the correlations with the SAIS presented in the “Results” section changed as follows (with the previous values in parentheses): ISS .38 (.31), NISS .26 (.23), HIS .71 (.72), ICISS $-.59 (-.61)$, TNI .82 (.81). All correlations were statistically significant ($p < .05$).

The summary of the injury severity scores in Table 1 was changed for the AIS-based scores as follows:

Besides the comment in the “Discussion” section that cases with asphyxia might score low in the AIS due to a lack of coding for asphyxia, the changes do not affect the “Discussion” or “Conclusion” sections of the original article.

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References

- Gennarelli, T. A., & Wodzin, E. (Eds.). (2008). *Abbreviated Injury Scale 2005-Update 2008*. Barrington, IL: Association for the Advancement of Automotive Medicine.
- Tamsen, F., Klötz Logan, F., & Thiblin, I. (2015). Homicide injury quantification: Correlations and reliability of injury severity scores applied to homicide victims. *Homicide Studies, 19*, 88-100. doi:10.1177/1088767914558142