Bungee running: a further report

M. E. Lovell FRCS and V. P. Bradley MB ChB
Noble's Isle of Man Hospital, Westmoreland Road, Douglas, Isle of Man, British Isles

Further to the report from Queen Mary's NHS Trust on bungee running affecting children, we present three cases of injury in adults. Two cases of injury presented to Noble's (Isle of Man) Hospital and one to Whiston Hospital, Merseyside.

In all three cases, the competitors were trying to stretch the 'bungee' to grasp a pint of beer as a prize, much enthusiasm being shown by spectators. All injuries occurred when the competitors were catapulted backwards with some force.

Keywords: bungee, bungee running

Case one
A 35-year-old male presented to Noble's Hospital casualty department. He had been pulled backwards by a bungee rope and fallen heavily. He sustained an angulated fracture of the tibia and fibula, and was treated with a tibial intramedullary nail.

Case two
A 20-year-old female presented to Noble's Hospital casualty department having fallen onto her elbow. X-rays showed an undisplaced fracture of the radial head. She was treated with a broad arm sling and analgesia.

Case three
A 35-year-old man was pulled backwards and struck his head heavily on the floor. He was rendered unconscious. He was taken to Whiston Hospital casualty department where diagnosis of basal skull fracture and diffuse brain injury was made. He was admitted to the intensive care unit but died the next day.

Discussion
We believe this is the first death reported from this sport. Perhaps when played in pubs the participants may be less in control of their minds and movements than this sport demands.

None of the injured subjects wore any form of protective clothing and the hard floor was not made safer by mats or cushioning. Perhaps after the third case, which was reported in the national press, competitors will take reasonable precautions including knee and elbow pads. Head protection should be mandatory.

Acknowledgements
Thanks to Mr T. Preston FRCS, Consultant Surgeon at Whiston Hospital for giving us permission to report the third case.

References

Address for correspondence: Mr M. E. Lovell, 16 MacDonald Avenue, St Helens, Merseyside, WA11 9RD, UK
Bungee running: a further report.

M E Lovell and V P Bradley

doi: 10.1136/bjsm.29.1.12

Updated information and services can be found at:
http://bjsm.bmj.com/content/29/1/12

These include:

Email alerting service
Receive free email alerts when new articles cite this article. Sign up in the box at the top right corner of the online article.

Notes

To request permissions go to:
http://group.bmj.com/group/rights-licensing/permissions

To order reprints go to:
http://journals.bmj.com/cgi/reprintform

To subscribe to BMJ go to:
http://group.bmj.com/subscribe/