

4 dead in multiple auto crash

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The management of the Federal Medical Centre Umuahia has confirmed the death of four people following a multiple auto crash on the Ubakala axis of Enugu/Port-Harcourt expressway yesterday.

The Public Relations Officer of the centre, Madubuoko Darlington, confirmed the incident, saying, "The police and other good citizens brought in some accident victims to the hospital around 9 am. Two people were certified dead while six others are being treated by our doctors, but one of them later passed on too."

Daily Trust correspondent who visited the scene gathered that four vehicles were involved in the crash, including a Toyota Hilux van with registration number CG 539RSH, a Peugeot J5 bus with registration No XA 874 AKW, and a Mercedes Benz tipper with registration no EGG 555 YG. The fourth vehicle said to be a commercial bus had been towed away.

One of the injured victims Abdulhamid Abubakar blamed the accident on over-speeding by the Hilux van driver.

He said, "We are four in number in the J5 bus travelling from Lafia, Nasarawa State to Aba in Abia State to sell bags of oranges and garden eggs. Three of my friends, Husaini Tanko, Imamu Abubakar and Ibrahim Abubakar and I were on the journey. The accident happened when the vehicle in front of our own applied sudden brake to dodge an oncoming Hilux van that was about to overtake a tipper in front of it.

“The bus in front of our own vehicle lost control and ran into the bush, while we rammed into it and our bus somersaulted and later caught fire. The Hilux also rammed into the tipper it was about to overtake. Unfortunately, one of our friends died, while two of us were injured. It is one of us with me here that did not sustain any injury.”