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BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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PATTERNS OF OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AND INFLUENCING FACTORS AMONG PATIENTS ADMITTED TO SURGICAL CASUALTY WARDS TEACHING HOSPITAL BATTICALOA

Thurka S¹, Yapa YMTN¹, Piyadasa SN¹, Rinuja AJ¹, Mahinthan J²

¹ Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka

² Department of Human Biology, Faculty of Health-Care Sciences, Eastern University, Sri Lanka

Background: Occupational injuries represent a leading and increasing contributor to regional and global disease burden. Occupational injuries and diseases play an even more important role in developing countries where 70% of the working population of the world lives. Some victims end as permanently disabled.

Objective: To assess the pattern of occupational injuries of socio demographic and occupation related factors among the patient admitted to surgical casualty ward, Teaching hospital, Batticaloa

Method: This cross sectional descriptive study was carried out over ten months. Estimated sample size was 200. Data was collected through a questionnaire which included demographic information, socio-economic factors and injury related factors. SPSS was used to enter and analyze the data.

Results: Majority of the study population 95% (n=190) were males. Among the majority, 39% (n=76) were between 30-40 years of age. Married persons were 52% (n=104). A Major proportion of patients 37% (n=74) were educated up to senior ordinary level and half (n=100) of the population income was more than 20000 rupees. Most injuries occurred during day time 71% (n=146) and most of the patients were working eight hours 57% (n=114). Most affected occupation was farmers followed by drivers 16% (n=32). Most common injury types were lacerations (n=84), contusions (n=76), abrasions (n=64). Injury sites were hands (n=78), legs (n=78). Most of the patients experienced stress (n=94) and sadness (n=94) when injury occurred.

Conclusions: Farmers were more commonly affected by occupational injuries in this study. Certain socio-demographic factors and occupational factors are influencing in occupational related injuries. Strict application of safety measures are required to bring down occupational related injuries and mortality.

Keywords: Occupational injuries, influencing factors, surgical wards, Teaching Hospital