



## Promoting Fall Prevention among Latino Construction Workers and Residential Contractors

### **Promoting adoption of fall prevention measures among Latino workers and residential contractors: Formative research findings**

*Suzanne Teran, Hillary Blecker, Kelsie Scruggs, Javier García Hernández and Barbara Rahke. American Journal of Industrial Medicine, August 2015.*

#### **Overview**

Falls from height remain a concern in construction, particularly for foreign-born Latino construction workers employed by small residential contractors. Researchers conducted five focus groups and thirteen in-depth interviews with workers, small residential contractors, and key informants in San Francisco and Philadelphia in order to identify individual and contextual factors influencing fall risk.

#### **Key Findings**

- Economic conditions in residential construction, coupled with a lack of enforcement and vulnerabilities of the foreign-born workforce, are principal contributors to risk for falls.
- Small contractors perceive strong economic disincentives for implementation of fall protection, and foreign-born Latino workers experience a variety of social, cultural and occupational pressures impeding its use.
- Increased adoption of fall protection cannot be accomplished solely by targeting Latino construction workers. Research is needed on incentives to influence contractor behavior and facilitate adoption of fall protection measures.

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#### **See abstract:**

<http://bit.ly/1MKGFww>

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