

How Occupational and Non-Occupational Factors are Associated with Construction Injuries

Occupational and non-occupational factors associated with work-related injuries among construction workers in the USA

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Overview

Researchers analyzed data from the 1988-2000 National Longitudinal Survey of Youth (1979 Cohort, N=12,686) to examine the relationship between multiple occupational and non-occupational factors and workplace injuries.

Key Findings

- Controlling for demographic variables, survey respondents employed in construction were 18% more likely to report a workplace injury than those never employed in construction.
- Occupational factors including blue-collar occupations, job physical efforts, multiple jobs, and long working hours accounted for the escalated risk in construction.
- The risk of injury doubled for workers holding five or more jobs per year compared to those with one or two jobs, indicating that worksite inexperience may be a risk factor for work-related injuries.
- Non-occupational factors such as smoking, obesity/overweight, and cocaine use significantly increased the risk of work-related injury when demographics and occupational factors were held constant.
- Workplace injuries are better explained by simultaneously examining occupational and non-occupational factors. Therefore, promoting Total Worker Health™ by integrating workplace injury prevention and health promotion may be more effective for improving worker safety and health.

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See abstract:

<http://bit.ly/1fESIU7>

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