

Infortunati lavorativi mortali: stime basate su più fonti informative

A. BALDASSERONI, E. CHELLINI*, O. ZOPPI*, L. GIOVANNETTI*

U.O. Epidemiologia, Azienda USL di Firenze

* U.O. Epidemiologia Analitica e Ambientale-Occupazionale, Centro per lo Studio e la Prevenzione Oncologica - Istituto Scientifico della Regione Toscana, Firenze

KEY WORDS

Fatal occupational accidents; Tuscany; data sources comparison; occupational injuries

SUMMARY

«Fatal occupational accidents: estimates based on multiple data sources». *The data reported by INAIL (Istituto Nazionale Assicurazione Infortuni sul Lavoro) on fatal occupational injuries have always been considered complete and reliable. The authors of this article verified the completeness of this information source crossing it with data bases existing in different registration systems (Regional Mortality Registry of Tuscany – RMR; registers and data of the Operative Units of Prevention, Hygiene and Safety in the Workplace – UOPISLL) for the period between 1992 and 1996. In the five years concerned, a total of 458 cases were reported. These cases could be considered fatal injuries at work without taking into account traffic accidents, which were not included in the present study. The results show that the most complete information source was RMR, reporting 80% of the total data, while INAIL reports only 62.2% of the total cases. On the contrary, the UOPISLL source is the least reliable. Using the capture/recapture method, the estimate of events in the period concerned (1992-1996) amounts to nearly 500 (499.8 LC 475.9-523.7), while the three sources systematically explored for the whole period (INAIL, RMR, UOSPILL) report 458 cases. An additional information source, the daily press, which could be systematically tested only two months for each of the five years, reports 10 additional cases, which were ignored by the 3 other sources, indirectly confirming in this way how reliable the performed estimate was. The main cases among the 157 fatal accidents reported by RMR, but not by INAIL, occurred among farmers (70), most of them already retired, but there were several fatal accidents reported in the construction sector (30). Other categories were included only in the RMR data because, in the period concerned, they were not covered by INAIL insurance (18 cases in the Army and Police, 7 on the railways). The survey that was carried out confirms the essential importance of INAIL data for the surveillance system applied to this phenomenon. This also confirms the need – which has been already stressed in the scientific literature – to combine INAIL's registration system at least with the mortality registries. In this way the knowledge and comprehension of the phenomenon could be integrated and completed especially for marginal work areas, where obligatory insurance may be evaded, and for groups of workers not covered by insurance. The relevance of an integrated system of registration of occupational fatal accidents is discussed.*

Pervenuto il 15.5.2001 - Accettato il 10.6.2001

Corrispondenza: Alberto Baldasseroni, U.O. Epidemiologia, Azienda USL di Firenze, Viale Michelangelo 41, 50125 Firenze
tel. 0556577400 - fax 0556577414 - e-mail: baldasal@tin.it