

Rischio di infortuni per professione in Italia negli anni novanta

ANTONELLA BENA, O. PASQUALINI, A. TOMAINO, M. MARCONI*, C. MAMO, G. COSTA**

Servizio regionale di Epidemiologia, ASL 5, Grugliasco (TO)

* ISPESL, Dipartimento Documentazione, Informazione, Formazione, Roma

** Dipartimento di sanità pubblica e microbiologia, Università di Torino

KEY WORDS

Occupations; injury; age; surveillance; Italy

SUMMARY

«Risk of workplace injuries by occupation in Italy in the 1990's». Background: *In Italy it is not possible to assess the incidence of workplace injuries by occupation due to the absence of denominator data. Objectives:* *To evaluate severe workplace injuries by occupation, age and gender, via discussion of the validity of the available methods and informative systems. Methods:* *The database included injuries in the industrial and artisan sectors in Italy during the period 1995-1999, as classified by INAIL (National Institute for the Insurance against Occupational Accidents and Diseases). A proportional case-control study was used. Three types of severe injuries were analyzed: fatal (3,685), permanently disabling (88,254) and injuries resulting in temporary disability for more than 40 days (238,609). Controls were represented by minor injuries with temporary disability lasting between 8 and 13 days (512,643). The relative risks were calculated by occupation and stratified by age and sex. The control group was chosen in order to minimize distortions and represented a balance between empirical criteria based on the experience of safety technicians and the quality and limits of INAIL archives. Results:* *Among men in some construction occupations (operators of construction equipment, crane operators and masons), and in truck drivers, farm workers, messengers, and miners there were elevated risks in all age groups and for all levels of injuries severity. The model was more problematic to apply to women because the control group was less representative of the work population at risk. Conclusions:* *The case-control study model produced results consistent with those in the international literature, even if the use of minor injuries as the control group gives partly distorted risk estimates. The results supply information for decision making and for allocating resources for prevention and safety.*