

Alcol e lavoro in edilizia

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KEY WORDS

Alcohol; construction works

SUMMARY

«*Alcohol and construction workers*». **Background and objectives:** *On the basis of the data drawn by national and international literature and the introduction of recent legislation concerning “alcohol and alcohol-related problems”, we studied alcohol consumption and the consequences that alcohol abuse has on health, working ability, accidents and absenteeism in construction workers.* **Methods:** *We studied alcohol consumption in two groups of building workers over different periods (1996-2000; 2006). In 142 workers alcohol concentration was measured in expired air during the periodic health surveillance examination and during work on building sites. We also analyzed the relationship between declared alcohol consumption, accidents and absenteeism.* **Results:** *Our study showed a reduction in the average consumption of alcohol over the last ten years but confirmed the role of alcohol-related diseases as a cause of work limitations or work disability. On the other hand, “breathalysing” demonstrated that alcohol consumption during pauses in work is still common.* **Conclusions:** *The results of this study confirm the correlation between frequency/seriousness of accidents, absenteeism and average consumption of alcohol.*