PERIODIC EXAMINATION IN A TRANSPORT/LOGISTICS COMPANY IN THAILAND

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Objectives Since 2009 new regulations of periodic examination have been established to help improve the health quality of workers and the surveillance for their health hazard which can affect their general health problem. As a result, the examination varies from one industry to another. The aim of this study is: To survey the general health problems of the transportation/logistics workers.

Methods A cross-sectional survey was conducted during 2010 among workers. Data was collected through periodic examination, blood test and chest X-ray.

Results A total of 3180 people participated in the study (2450 males, 730 females). Results showed that the top 3 health problems were hypercholesterolemia, abnormal body mass index and hypertension. The report of hypercholesterolemia were 2127 (67%), 1047 (49.2% of this group) had high LDL. There were 1203 (56.5%) who had low HDL. The second problem was abnormal BMI. There were 1429 (44.9%) who were overweight, 420 (13.3%) with obesity BMI. Based on a 12-year cohort study of diabetes that has been conducted among Thai population, it could be predicted that this company will contribute to having about 335 new cases of DM in the next 10 years. For hypertension, there were 1235 (38.8%) who were diagnosed with this. The screening chest x-ray was done in this study and there were 423 (13.3%) with abnormal results, for example, fibrosis, lung infiltration in upper lobes.

Conclusions This study shows that prevalence of general health problems of Thai workers does not differ from those among normal population. Education for prevention of chronic diseases and health hazardous must be provided.