PRELIMINARY STUDY OF DISTRESS AMONG MEDICAL AND PARAMEDICAL STAFF OF MOROCCAN HOSPITAL

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Objectives Mental health status of medical and paramedical staff has an impact on the quality and quantity of their productivity and on their relationship with the patients.

The objective of this preliminary study is to measure mental health status in hospital staff, especially, emotional disorder “distress”.

Method The study is realised in hospital in Rabat, Morocco, among 100 medical and paramedical staff. The 12-items General Health Questionnaire GHQ and questionnaire about their health status are used.

Results The results show that, according to gender; among 50 men, 50% suffer from distress and among 50 women, 58% are distressed.

Also, according to specialty; 80% of doctors and 47.5% of nurses in different categories (55% of nurses in anaesthesia and resuscitation, 45% of nurses of laboratory, polyvalent nurses and radiology nurses) suffer from this emotional disorder.

The findings demonstrate also, that 23% and 36% of the staff sample’s suffer from different health problems (gastritis, allergies, asthma, colopathy, hypertension...) and from sleep disorders respectively.

Conclusions These preliminary results have highlighted the danger that threatens the health status of medical and paramedical staff of this hospital. Deeper investigations are needed to determine all the possible factors that could be influencing this status and studying the possible relationship between the founded pathologies and distress.

SEVERE OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES IN MOROCCO

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Objectives Occupational injuries represent a considerable part of the injury burden to society, affecting people in the most productive years of their lives. The aim of this study is to describe the profile of severe occupational injuries in Kenitra city, economic capital of the Gharb region (NW Morocco).

Method This is a descriptive retrospective analysis of severe occupational injuries (fatal injuries or resulting in permanent disability) notified in the delegation of employment of Kenitra in 2008–2009. The results do not include occupational diseases or journey accidents.

Results There were 210 severe workplace injuries reported; 176 resulted in temporary disability and 34 were fatal. According to data recorded, 91% of the victims were men with a male-female ratio of 10.05. The most exposed sectors were building and public works sector (38%), wood, furniture, paper, cardboard, textile and clothing industries (29.5%) and metallurgical industries (10%). Accidents were caused by machinery and falling materials, followed by falls from height and electricity.

Conclusions The assessment and prevention of occupational risks are a major asset to improve the quality of work and retain employees through a better quality of work life.