DO PARTICIPANTS WHO COMPLETE A TELEPHONE SURVEY IN A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH DIFFER TO THOSE WHO COMPLETE THE SURVEY IN ENGLISH?

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Objectives Limited research indicates that using English-language only surveys in prevalence studies conducted in the general population or in specific ethnic populations may result in unrepresentative samples and biased results. In this study we investigated whether participants from ethnic minorities who chose to complete a study interview in a language other than English (LOTE) differed from those who completed the interview in English.

Method This study was conducted within the Migrant Australian Workplace Exposure Study, a population-based telephone survey that assessed the prevalence of exposure to occupational carcinogens among 749 workers of Chinese, Vietnamese and Arabic ancestry. The study was conducted in Australia in 2013. Modified Poisson regression determined the demographic factors associated with completing the interview in a LOTE.

Results Participants who completed the interview in a LOTE differed from those who completed the interview in English on several demographic factors, including sex, city of residence and household income, and were more likely to be exposed at carcinogens at work compared with those who completed the interview in English (40% compared with 29%, P < 0.01).

Conclusions The participants who choose to complete the study interview in their native language had several demographic differences to those participants who completed it in English, and were more likely to be exposed at carcinogens at work. Prevalence studies that offer only English-language study instruments are unlikely to produce representative samples of minority groups, and may therefore produce biased results.

THE ASSOCIATION OF BLOOD LEAD LEVELS AND BONE DENSITY IN DIFFERENT COMBINATIONAL SNP POLYMORPHISMS AMONG TAIWAN LEAD WORKERS

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Objectives Past researches almost explored the relationship between a single gene with a single disease. Our study aims to investigate into the interaction of multi-gene with a single disease by using Genetic Algorithms.

Method Samples in this study are from a lead battery factory in Taiwan. We collected the data of their bone density, blood lead levels and 6 SNPs (ACE, alpha-adducin, Bsm, Tag, Apa, ALAD) from 1990 to 2009. When in 2009, a total of 502 employees in this factory. And we used Genetic Algorithms and logistic regression analysis that the genotype in an individual.

Results In this study, our findings suggest that when people’s genotype combined Bsm bb and ALAD 1–1, it will have a protective effect on bone density. It means the Taiwanese lead worker with genotypes of Bsm bb and ALAD 1–1, would have less chance to have low bone density (OR: 0.58; 95% CI: 0.95–0.35).

Conclusions We found the results by using Genetic Algorithms and logistic regression analysis that the genotype in an individual which are Bsm bb type and ALAD 1, would have a protective effect on bone density. It means the Taiwanese lead worker with genotypes of Bsm bb and ALAD 1–1, would have less chance to have low bone density (OR: 0.58; 95% CI: 0.95–0.35).

RESPIRATORY SURVEILLANCE IN THAI AUTOMOBILE WORKERS

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Objectives To survey the pulmonary function test in automobile workers.

Background There are some working processes in automobile factory that can affect lung function. Thailand had developed health surveillance in respiratory e.g. predicted values of pulmonary function test for Thai population for a decade.

Methods A cross-sectional survey was conducted during June–August 2013 among the workers. Data was collected through periodic examination from 165 people who participated in the study.

Results All workers were male. They were 26–54 years of age and their average working years were 8.8 ± 2.6 years. The report of abnormal pulmonary function test was 12.7% (21 people). They were found to have restricted lung function and had mild to moderate severity without any abnormal chest X-ray. There was 19% (4 people) who had abnormal as same as the previous test in 2012. There was 47% (10 people) who work in welding and body painting zone. The other biological monitoring 2,5-dioxohexane, Toluene, Xylene was done in 17 people who were exposed to these substances and the level was normal.

Conclusions Pulmonary function test is a useful test especially for health surveillance in welding and painting zone even though occupational or work related lung disease was not diagnosed. The environmental examination should be done to explain the working condition.