Poster Presentation

Migrant Workers

0033 A SURVEY OF CHILD LABOURERS AMONG SYRIAN REFUGEES IN AGRARIAN LEBANON

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Background Since the outbreak of the war in Syria in 2011, over 1 million Syrians have sought refuge in Lebanon, more than half of whom are children below 18 years of age. Recent reports have highlighted the increasing numbers of Syrian children working in Lebanese agricultural settings.

Methods This research will utilise cluster random sampling to enrol into a survey 500 households living in informal tented settlements near the agricultural areas of the Beqaa Valley, Lebanon. A questionnaire was designed to capture information on the living and working conditions of child labourers living in these communities. The surveys will collect data on household socioeconomic and demographic information, migration history, and service usage. Data will also be collected on child labourers demographics, work history and experience, education, health status, and life experiences. The quantitative data from the survey will be entered into a descriptive analysis aimed at identifying trends in the population data. The findings will be categorised by age, gender, location, and other salient variables.

Results This report will highlight the working conditions that predominate Lebanon's migrant child labour force, while exploring the familial and household context that affect these children's experiences as migrants, workers, and children.

Discussion The analysis will highlight how migration push factors such as war and the conditions of extreme familial poverty may necessitate child labour. This research will provide contextualised understandings of refugee children's participation in the agricultural labour force and support targeted interventions aimed at increasing education and childhood opportunities for these young people.

Poster Presentation

Pesticides

0034 ACUTE OCCUPATIONAL PESTICIDE POISONING IN MOROCCO: A 6 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Introduction Pesticide poisoning has become a major public health problem worldwide, following the intensification of agriculture. The easy availability of highly toxic pesticides in the homes of farming communities has made pesticides the preferred means of suicide with an extremely high fatality rate. Similarly, the extensive use of pesticides exposes the

community to both long-term and acute occupational health problems. The aim of this study is to describe the epidemiological characteristics of acute occupational pesticide poisoning in Morocco.

Methods This is a descriptive retrospective study of occupational poisoning cases, notified between 2007 and 2012 in the Moroccan Poison Control Centre.

Results There were 151 cases of acute occupational pesticide poisoning (35.7% of women and 64.3% of men), which was 43.7% of all occupational poisoning cases notified during the period of study. These products were responsible for poisoning of varying severity, depending on the types of pesticides, the route of exposure, and the duration and frequency of exposure. The average age of victims was 27.9 ± 0.9 years. More than half of reported cases resulted from inhalation (53%), 36.2% from oral exposure and only 9.4% from dermal exposure. The risk was mainly related to the use of insecticides (50%). Among the 136 cases for whom the evolution is known, a 26-year-old man died. For other cases, the outcome was favourable with or without sequelae.

Conclusions Preventive measures should be taken to rationalise pesticide use, which pose a real public health problem, not only for users, but also for the general population.

Poster Presentation

Disease Surveillance

0035 NOTCH AND NOTCH AREA AMONG HEARING LOSS EMPLOYEES AT CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES IN RAYONG, THAILAND

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Introduction For Surveillance of Noise-induced hearing Loss (NIHL), Thai Workers in Hearing Conservative Programs (HCPs) must have hearing test (audiograms) annually. Occupational Medicine Physicians (OMPs) use Notch Criteria for early diagnosis of NIHL. Naturally, notch would be deeper and wider after additional exposure to loud noise. The purpose of this study was to describe nature of Notch and Notch Area in target population.

Method In 2015, a descriptive cross-sectional study was performed by collecting audiograms from 1122 employees at chemical industries in Rayong province, Thailand. The investigators used criteria concluded from previous study to identify Notch at 3,000 4,000 6,000 Hertz, V-shape Notch, U-shape Notch and calculate Notch Area.

Results The most common Notch was 6,000 Hertz 4,000 Hertz and 3,000 Hertz respectively. V-shape notch is more common than U-shape Notch. The means of notch area (square unit) in right ear and left ear were 17.7 and 21 accordingly. For workers with bilateral notch, mean difference of notch area between right and left ear was 19.4.

Discussion and Conclusion Occupational Medicine Physician may use Notch Area to make diagnosis of ONIHL. Notch Area was useful for identifying symmetrical hearing loss. Longitudinal study should be conducted to show how Notch Area