Intervention studies

0-254 TEACHING INTERVENTIONS IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY DURING COVID19 PANDEMIC IN A SMALL EXPORTER AND PROCESSOR COMPANY OF HYDROBIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS IN PIURA, PERU

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Introduction In Peru there are many companies dedicated to fishing and exporting hydrobiological products that carry out their work informally. Most companies in this sector do not have occupational health and safety (OHS) systems. Accidents at work occur frequently but are not registered in the statistics of the Ministry of Labor. Workers also suffer from diseases such as musculoskeletal disorders, respiratory and skin infections, metabolic and cardiovascular diseases. Interventions of education and training workers and employers in OHS are becoming more important in small workplaces in developing countries as Peru, especially since the COVID-19 pandemic started. The purpose of the present study was to describe the implementation and its progressive improvement of teaching interventions during 3 years in a small exporter and processor company of hydrobiological products in Peru, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and to show its impact in the OHS system.

Materials & Methods The unit of this case report study was the indicators of teaching interventions as number of participants, professions, time working in OHS, education methods used and a knowledge assessment at the end of intervention. Besides, it was analyzed the impact of the intervention on the frequency of accidents and illnesses in workers, on absenteeism and the indicators of workers’ health (such as frequency of diseases, workers under treatment, etc). The instrument used was Data collection sheet.

Results During 3 years, the teaching intervention implemented included ‘In Person’ and online sessions and tools. Some of the methods included Cases discussion, Role games, Performance-feedback, Video analysis and interactive games. The frequency of accidents was reduced in 20%. Absenteeism was reduced in 33%. Workers with diseases could follow medical exams and start their treatment.

Conclusion Teaching interventions had good results in OHS system reducing accidents and absenteeism at this small company and improving medical surveillance in workers.