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Meeting Information

When:

November 15 - 19, 2014

Where:

New Orleans, LA

302222 From the Horse Worker's Mouth: A Detailed Account of Injuries Experienced by Latino Horse Workers


 APHA 142nd ANNUAL MEETING & EXPO
NOVEMBER 15-19, 2014 | NEW ORLEANS, LA

Monday, November 17, 2014 : 10:50 AM - 11:10 AM

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 Jessica Miller Clouser, MPH, College of Public Health, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY
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[Audio \(mp3\) recording](#)
[Recorded Presentation \(mp4\)](#)

Background and objectives: Horse breeding is a dangerous industry and increasingly reliant on Latino workers. Yet little is known about the injuries experienced by this population due to the challenges associated with surveying them and the limitations of employer-based surveillance systems (e.g., injuries must be reported to the employer to be counted). Limited research suggests that these workers are at risk of musculoskeletal and respiratory symptoms, kicks, and bites. However, no known research has systematically assessed Latino horse workers' injuries by surveying workers directly. This paper identifies and describes injuries experienced by these workers, the circumstances surrounding them, and whether injuries were reported to a supervisor.

Methods: Data were collected from a community-based sample of 220 Latino horse farmworkers via a 1-hour survey administered by four native Spanish-speaking lay health promoters. Quantitative data were entered into Statistical Analysis Software (SAS). Open-ended responses about the circumstances of injuries, and reasons for not reporting were reviewed, coded into themes, and entered into SAS. Univariate/bivariate analyses were conducted to determine the nature and frequency of injuries and themes in reporting tendencies.

Results and Conclusions: Preliminary results indicate that in the past year 25% of workers experienced an injury requiring medical attention, 40% experienced an injury not requiring medical attention, and 49% experienced a near miss incident. Among injuries that were not reported, the most common reason given was that it was not serious. Information about the type, cause, context, and reporting of injuries to a supervisor will be presented and implications discussed.

Learning Areas:

Occupational health and safety
 Public health or related research

Learning Objectives:

Describe the types of injuries and circumstances surrounding these injuries among Latino workers employed on horse breeding farms. Identify the leading causes of injury for Latino horse farmworkers. Assess reasons workers give for not reporting injuries to supervisor.

Keyword(s): Occupational Health and Safety, Vulnerable Populations

Presenting author's disclosure statement:

Qualified on the content I am responsible for because: I have conducted research on work organization for 20 years, with an emphasis on vulnerable workers. For the last four years, I have led a research program focusing on the work conditions and occupational health of Latino farmworkers.

Any relevant financial relationships? No

I agree to comply with the American Public Health Association Conflict of Interest and Commercial Support Guidelines, and to disclose to the participants any off-label or experimental uses of a commercial product or service discussed in my presentation.

Back to: [3170.0: Risk of work-related injury: identifying it, communicating it](#)


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