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299420 Occupational Safety Perceptions, Personal Protective Equipment Use, and Injury Experience of Latino Roofers



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HEALTHOGRAPHY



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

Monday, November 17, 2014

Meeting Information

When:
November 15 - 19, 2014
Where:
New Orleans, LA

Thomas A. Arcury, PhD , Department of Family and Community Medicine, Wake Forest School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, NC
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Construction is one of the most hazardous industries; within construction, roofing is one of the most hazardous trades. Many roofers are Latino immigrants who have among the highest occupational injury rates in construction. The aim of this analysis is to delineate the occupational safety perceptions and practices of Latino residential roofers in NC. Participants included male Latino residential roofers who completed a baseline interview (n=89) and daily logs over one week (n=78). Participants had worked in roofing an average 7.4 years. About 60% indicated that they had received some safety training. Although most participants felt that safety was important to supervisors (86.5%) and that they were regularly made aware of dangerous conditions (79.7%), most also felt that taking risks was part of their job (70.8%), that they would be injured in the next year (83.1%), and that supervisors do not do as much as possible to make their jobs safe (79.5%). Workers reported using personal protective equipment (PPE), including eye protection, cut-resistant gloves, hard hats, and harnesses, about two-thirds of the time. Occupational injuries among the workers in the past year were common; 14.6% reported a strain or sprain, 20.2% a cut, 5.6% a burn, and 16.9% a contusion. Ten percent were currently taking a medication for a work-related injury. Work safety climate was associated with PPE use and injury. Greater effort is needed to improve occupational safety among Latino roofers, including better safety training and enforcement of current occupational safety regulations. Grant U60 OH009761, Project ID 10183

Learning Areas:

- Diversity and culture
- Epidemiology
- Occupational health and safety
- Public health or related education
- Public health or related public policy
- Public health or related research

Learning Objectives:

Describe the safety beliefs and behaviors with Latino construction workers Identify factors that influence the use of personal protective equipment among Latino construction workers

Keyword(s): Occupational Health and Safety, Health Disparities/Inequities

Presenting author's disclosure statement:

Qualified on the content I am responsible for because: I have been the principal investigator of multiple federally funded grants focusing on the occupational health of immigrant workers.
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.

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