



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

### ASSESS KNOWLEDGE REGARDING PREVENTION OF RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS AMONG CASHEW FACTORY WORKERS

Prof. Dr. Jeejanimol, V.L., Adithyan, T.S., Adya Ajai, Akhil D Nair, Alka Anil, Albin Isac Binu, Amritha Rajan, Anakha Raj, R.S., Aneena, LK, Anjali Sunilkumar and Anju, S. and Ansana, A.

Upasana College of Nursing, Kollam

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##### \*Corresponding author:

Prof. Dr. Jeejanimol, V.L.,

#### ABSTRACT

Occupational respiratory infections represent a major public health concern, particularly in environments where workers are exposed to airborne pathogens, dust, fumes and other hazardous substances. Assessing the knowledge of cashew workers regarding respiratory problems prevention is crucial due to the high prevalence of respiratory issues in the industry and potential for improved health outcomes through targeted interventions. Therefore, this study focuses on "Assess knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems among cashew factory workers". The objective of the study is to assess knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems among cashew factory workers and to find out the association between knowledge score and selected demographic variables. 30 cashew factory workers from Puthuchira cashew factory, Kollam were selected through convenient sampling technique. After obtaining consent from them pre-test was conducted. The data collected and analyzed by using descriptive and inferential statistical techniques. The study findings revealed that samples have (36.7%) have average knowledge, (63.3%) have good knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems and that there was no significant association between knowledge score of cashew factory workers and their age, religion, type of family, educational qualification, marital status, monthly income, work experience, duration of work. To sum up, most of the workers of cashew factory having good knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems.

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## INTRODUCTION

Assessing the knowledge of cashew workers regarding respiratory problems prevention is crucial due to the high prevalence of respiratory issues in the industry and potential for improved health outcomes through targeted interventions. Epidemiologic research over the last 30 years has increased knowledge on occupational lung disease. The relationship between occupation and respiratory disease can be viewed from different aspects. First, a certain type of occupation or exposure can cause a respiratory disease. Second, irritant exposure in the workplace can aggravate preexisting lung disease or induce symptoms. Third, physical demands at the workplace can prevent or hinder persons with an existing respiratory disease from doing any type or certain types of work. Finally, social behavior, such as tobacco smoking, that affects lung function can differ between occupations. In many countries there are national surveillance systems for work-related disease. These systems record persons identified by physicians as having an occupational disease and reflect diagnostic tradition and incentives to report such cases, which can vary over time and between diseases. Both long-term (290 days) and short-term sick leaves (14-89 days) due to respiratory disease were studied and compared with all other causes of sick leave. A study of the impact of age and gender

on sick leave was also included, and the analysis was focused on long term disease. Since the AGS register does not provide information on the size or age and gender distribution of the population from which the cases were recruited, data from a labor force survey made in 1993 were analyzed. These data were compared with data from union registers on the rate of union enrollment.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

In order to accomplish the objectives of the study, quantitative research approach and descriptive design were used for the study. Data were collected from 30 Cashew Factory Workers by convenient sampling technique through structured knowledge questionnaire. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used for analysis of the study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study findings revealed that samples have (36.7%) have average knowledge, (63.3%) have good knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems and that there was no significant association between knowledge score of cashew factory workers and their age, religion, type of family,

educational qualification ,marital status ,monthly income, work experience, duration of work .To sum up, most of the workers of cashew factory having good knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems

## CONCLUSION

Cashew factory have average knowledge regarding prevention of respiratory problems. There was no significant association between knowledge score of cashew factory workers and their age, religion, type of family, educational qualification, marital status, monthly income, work experience, duration of work.

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