

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF OCCUPATIONAL ACCIDENTS IN HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS: AN INTEGRATIVE LITERATURE REVIEW

Brenda Sthefanny Souza Santos¹

Maria Eduarda Alves de Oliveira²

Alexandre Ribeiro Rocha³

Vitória Moreira Oliveira⁴

Heloiza Dias Lopes Lago⁵

Universidade Evangélica de Goiás – Campus Ceres

ABSTRACT

Occupational accidents are complex and influenced by multiple factors, including inadequate working conditions and the incorrect use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). This study aimed to evaluate the epidemiological profile of notified cases of occupational accidents with exposure to biological material in two health regions of the state of Goiás. The research used an integrative review of Brazilian literature to synthesize the results of primary research between 2019 and 2024, focusing on healthcare professionals who suffered occupational accidents with exposure to biological materials. The results show that the most common accidents occur among nursing technicians, predominantly female, representing 70.7% of the analyzed cases. The sociodemographic analysis evidenced the female majority and highlighted the importance of implementing specific preventive measures that consider the socioeconomic and cultural factors of this professional class. Data from FIOCRUZ show an increase in notifications of accidents involving nursing technicians in recent years, emphasizing the relevance of discussing and improving safety in the work environment for these professionals. The importance of understanding the causes of these accidents to reduce their frequency was highlighted. The implementation of educational initiatives focused on worker protection and the correct use of PPE is recommended, aiming to contribute to the creation of safer and healthier work environments for healthcare professionals.

Keywords: Occupational accident; healthcare professionals; occupational safety.

INTRODUCTION

Occupational accidents are complex problems, influenced by multiple factors. Although analyses often focus on behavioral aspects, this approach can result in victim blaming and neglect of working conditions. The causes of accidents can be

¹Acadêmica de Enfermagem da Universidade Evangélica de Goiás Campos Ceres, E-mail: Brendaflaviasouza@gmail.com

²Acadêmica de Enfermagem da Universidade Evangélica de Goiás Campos Ceres, E-mail: eduarda7097@gmail.com

³Acadêmico de Enfermagem da Universidade Evangélica de Goiás Campos Ceres, E-mail: alexandreriibeirorocha16@gmail.com

⁴Acadêmica de Farmácia pela Universidade Evangélica de Goiás Campos Ceres, E-mail: vic09moreira@gmail.com

⁵Mestre, professora da Universidade Evangélica, de Goiás Campus Ceres, E-mail: heloizalago@hotmail.com

related to the inadequate use of equipment and the physical and organizational conditions of the work environment, including the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), actions that compromise worker safety and other unsafe working conditions (CARVALHO et al., 2020).

Healthcare workers, inserted in unique contexts, face conditions that increase their vulnerability to injuries and occupational accidents. Accidents involving these professionals have been a frequent subject of study, considering the work context, living conditions, and professional relationships within health teams (SEBEN; MORETTO, 2022).

In this context, the most common occupational accidents among healthcare workers are related to exposure to biological materials. This includes all professionals involved, directly or indirectly, in providing healthcare or in institutions that carry out such activities (FERREIRA et al., 2019).

Therefore, occupational health surveillance actions, which include promotion, protection, and recovery, are essential in case of accidents, requiring a notification and registration system that documents the nature of the incident. SINAN - Notifiable Diseases Information System - functions as an electronic platform to record information and different notification modalities, which can be immediate or not. According to the Ministry of Health, "compulsory notification is the mandatory communication to the health authority, made by doctors, health professionals, or those responsible for public or private health establishments, in case of suspicion or confirmation of a disease, injury, or public health event" (MINISTÉRIO DA SAÚDE, 2023).

METHODOLOGY

This study conducts an integrative review of Brazilian literature, aiming to synthesize the results of primary research on the object of investigation, facilitating the understanding of the various aspects that involve the theme.

This is a bibliographic survey with research in several databases, including the Portal of Periodicals of the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), the Scientific Electronic Library Online (SciELO), and the PubMed

library. The selection process began with the analysis of the titles and abstracts of the articles, using specific criteria for pre-selection. A five-year period was determined for the search, covering all articles published between 2019 and 2024 on the presented theme in Portuguese. In the initial search, 49 articles were found, of which only 35 met the established criteria for the integrative review. After a careful analysis of the selected studies based on the central theme of the research, the most relevant information was highlighted.

RESULTS

Occupational accidents involving exposure to biological material constitute a constant concern in work environments. These incidents occur when workers come into contact with blood and/or other organic fluids during their activities. The associated risks vary according to factors such as the type of exposure, the severity of the situation, the magnitude of the resulting injury, the amount of blood involved, and the preventive measures adopted (SARDEIRO, 2019).

In Brazil, an occupational accident is recorded every 51 seconds, according to data from the International Labour Organization (ILO). This alarming statistic places Brazil among the most dangerous countries for workers, surpassed only by China, India, and Indonesia. In 2022, 612.9 thousand occupational accidents were recorded in the country, resulting in 2,538 deaths, representing an increase of 22% compared to 2021 (ILO, 2023).

The sociodemographic analysis conducted in this study reveals relevant data about the investigated population, examining variables such as sex and identification of professions. Regarding the gender of the participants, it was observed that 48 individuals are male, representing 29.30% of the total, while 116 are female, corresponding to 70.70%. These findings are aligned with those of Duarte et al. (2023), who emphasize the predominance of women in the nursing area, with a proportion of 84.6% in Brazil.

Furthermore, as evidenced in the research by Duarte et al. (2023), nursing technicians, according to data from FIOCRUZ (2022), were the class that suffered the most notified accidents compared to other professions, increasing from 6% between 2018 and 2019 to 9% in the biennium 2020-2021. Prevention measures

need to be specific, considering the socioeconomic and cultural factors involved and the class of professionals.

The occupational safety of nursing professionals must be discussed and improved. These accidents can cause significant physical and psychological damage to workers. Thus, it is of utmost importance to investigate the causes of these events and adopt adequate preventive measures.

CONCLUSION

This study evidenced the epidemiological profile of healthcare professionals who suffered occupational accidents resulting from exposure to biological material between 2019 and 2024, highlighting the predominance of females and the presence of nursing technicians.

Given this context, it is concluded that understanding the causes of occupational accidents is fundamental to reducing their occurrence. It is essential to promote and implement educational initiatives in the health area, aiming at the protection of professionals and the correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), thus contributing to the creation of safer and healthier work environments for healthcare workers.

REFERENCES

CARVALHO, C,A, da S.et al. Saúde e Segurança no Trabalho: um relato dos números de acidentes do trabalho e doenças ocupacionais no Brasil (2012-2018). Braz. J. of Bus., Curitiba, v. 2, n. 3, p. 2909-2926, jul. /set. 2020.

SEBEN, Y P; MORETTO, Cleide, F. Estratégias de Enfrentamento em Acidentes de Trabalho com Exposição ao Material Biológico. Psicologia: Ciência e Profissão, v. 42, e181772, 1-14, 2022.

BRASIL, M, da S. Boletim Epidemiológico. Acidentes de trabalho com exposição a material biológico em profissionais da enfermagem, 2018-2022. Volume 54, N. ° 17, 4 dez. 2023.

SARDEIRO, T.L, SOUZA, C.L, SALGADO, T.A, GALDINO J, H, NEVES Z.C.P, TIPPLE, A.F.V. Acidente de trabalho com material biológico: fatores associados ao abandono do acompanhamento clínico-laboratorial. Rev. Esc. Enferm USP, 53: e03516, 2019.

ORGANIZAÇÃO I DO T- OIT. Série SmartLab de Trabalho Decente 2023: Mortalidade no trabalho cresce em 2022 e acidentes notificados ao SUS batem recorde 2023.

DUARTE, Gabriele, C, de L Acidentes de trabalho em profissionais de enfermagem em Cuiabá e várzea grande no ano de 2018 a 2022. Artigo científico, Curso de graduação em enfermagem do Centro Universitário de Várzea Grande – UNIVAG,2023.

FIOCRUZ, F; O; C. Acidentes de trabalho e mortes acidentais crescem no Brasil em 2021. Escola Nacional de Saúde Pública Sérgio Arouca (ENSP), vinculada da Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (Fiocruz), 2022.