

A CROSS SECTIONAL STUDY ON THE PREVALENCE OF HEARING LOSS AMONG AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IN KANCHEEPURAM DISTRICT, TAMIL NADU - 2017

ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND:

The industrial revolution has modernized the companies with machines replacing man. The technological development created bigger and noisier machines each time, which contributed substantially to aggravate the problem of noise. In recent times it is one of the most important problems in the occupational environment which affects workers in various professions.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To assess the prevalence of hearing loss in the automobile industrial workers.
2. To determine the factors influencing the hearing loss among automobile industrial workers.

METHODOLOGY:

Industry based cross sectional study conducted among the automobile industrial workers of Kanchipuram District, Tamil Nadu. Study period was march 17 to august 17with the sample size 316.

RESULTS:

The prevalence of hearing loss in our study among the automobile industrial workers was nearly 6.6% and early hearing loss with dip in 4khz was about 23.7% in Right ear and 34.2% in Left ear. Confounding factors: Confounding factors such as ototoxic drug intake such as streptomycin and quinine, family history of hard of hearing and history of known hypertension

were included in the analysis but not found to have statistical significance in hearing loss.

CONCLUSION:

Need for increasing awareness about the hazardous effects of noise on hearing acuity among automobile industrial workers regarding the prevention and control of NIHL, including strict strengthening of legislation.

KEYWORDS: Automobile Industrial Workers, Hearing Loss, NIHL