

**ASSOCIATED FACTORS REGARDING OCCUPATIONAL INJURIES AMONG MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE COLLECTORS IN NORTHERN YANGON**

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**ABSTRACT**

Municipal solid waste collectors are exposed to various occupational injuries according to the job nature such as lifting, carrying, pushing and pulling of the waste bags and bins. Most of the respondents did not use the personal protective equipments. Therefore, they are more prone to get occupational injuries. The objective of the study is to assess the associated factors regarding occupational injuries among municipal solid waste collectors. A cross-sectional study was conducted among 260 respondents of municipal solid waste collectors in Northern Yangon from September 2016 to December 2016. Pre-tested semi-structured questionnaire was used and face to face interviews were conducted. Associations between independent variables and occupational injuries were calculated by using binary and multiple logistic regression with 95% CI.

Half of the respondents (54.2%) were male. The majority of the age group (71.9%) were 45 years and below. Municipal solid waste collectors representing daily wages were (94.6%). The respondents who worked beyond their capacity were (39.2%) and the respondents with awkward position were (64.6%). The sleeping disturbance among the respondents was (33.8%). Betel chewing habit represented (71.9%) of the respondents. The common types of injuries were cut (67.6%), puncture (31.4%). The most injured body parts revealed upper extremities (62.9%) and lower extremities (60.0%). The respondents did not wear personal protective equipments completely as instructed. Personal hygiene practices of the respondents were satisfied. The respondents with less than 2 years working experience were likely to get occupational injuries (AOR=1.87, 95% CI=1.09-3.23). Those respondents who worked beyond their capacity were significantly associated with occupational injuries (AOR=1.91, 95% CI=1.05-3.46). The respondents who had job related stress were found to be 2.07 times odds of more getting occupational injuries (AOR=2.07, 95% CI=1.04 to 4.16).

The provision and utilization of personal protective equipments are important. Work related education and training programs should be provided.