

# **A REVIEW OF THE EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION DATABASE ON MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENT CLAIMS AND ITS POTENTIAL USE AS A TOOL FOR THE PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES**

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## **ABSTRACT**

### **Background**

Workers' compensation (WC) database is a rich source of information on occupational injuries and illnesses. WC database contain information that can provide demographic data and other administrative data about the claimants. This can be a useful tool for occupational injuries and illnesses surveillance and prevention purposes.

### **Objective:**

This study aimed to review and assess the existing employees' compensation claims database. This study also intended to suggest for the development and improvement of the existing database to further address the disease development prevention needs of the Filipino workers.

### **Methodology**

Medical Reimbursement claims database was provided by the Employees' Compensation Commission. Some of the data included in the released copy of the database are as follows: sex, age at the time of contingency, nature of business, nature of work and diagnosis of the disease. Data were coded according to the Philippine Standard Industrial Classification (PSIC), Philippine Standard Occupational Classification (PSOC) and International Classification of Diseases (ICD10). Analysis of the data was executed through the use of Stata15, a statistical program.

### **Results**

Based on the data analysis, the manufacturing sector still has the highest number of claims from the periods 2012 to 2017. Among the occupation, the largest number of claims were reported among the laborers. Highest number of claims was observed for workers who are suffering from genitourinary diseases, specifically the end-stage renal

disease. The information content of the database is not enough to be used as a preventive tool in terms of addressing the diseases through its root cause due to its unavailability in the database.

### **Recommendations**

Data collection bodies can strictly implement data uniformity through the use of classification systems such as ICD10, PSIC and PSOC. Additionally, development of a standardized classification system for the cause of injury or disease in the database can be applied in the data collection process as well. Further researches on this kind of study with improved data collection method may give evidence-based results towards the development of a prevention program for a targeted disease.