

FACTORS INFLUENCING IMPLEMENTATION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES AMONG MANUFACTURING COMPANIES IN SELECTED PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONES

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ABSTRACT

Background

The OSHS (2016), as amended, requires all workplaces in the private sector to establish OH services. The 2015/2016 ISLE revealed that out of 5,540 manufacturing establishments employing 20 or more workers that responded to the survey, only 65% have trained first aiders, 32% employed OH nurses, and only 23% have OH physicians in their clinics (PSA, 2015). Moreover, in the same study, 79% of the 5,882 respondent manufacturing companies provide periodic medical examination to workers and 74% (N = 5,659) have surveillance on occupational and work-related injuries and illnesses. There had been a decrease by 23% on the cases of occupational diseases in the manufacturing industry from the same survey compared to 2013. However, companies have to maintain safe and healthy workplaces for their workers to achieve economic productivity (Lu, 2011).

Objectives

The objective of this study was to determine the level of implementation of Rule 1960 of the OSHS, as amended. This also aimed at identifying the facilitating factors in successfully carrying out the said Rule. The outcome of this research will help policymakers and stakeholders formulate policies and programs in improving workplace safety and health.

Methods

A cross-sectional study was conducted to selected manufacturing companies located in Philippine EZs. A four-part structured interview was given to the organization's OH and HR personnel. Profile of the company's OH personnel and services were obtained including the factors influencing the implementation of the said services. Data gathered were analyzed using