



# **Workers Awareness Related to Occupational Hazards of Ceramic Industry**

## **Thesis**

Submitted for Master Degree In Nursing Science  
(Community Health Nursing)

**By**

**Heba Mohamed Ahmed Radwan**

(B.Sc. Nursing, 2008)

Director of Nursing Staff at Suez General Hospital

**Faculty of Nursing  
Ain Shams University  
2020**



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*Under Supervision of*

**Prof. Dr/ Hanaa Abd Elhakiem Ahmed**

Professor and Head of Community Health Nursing Department

Faculty of Nursing - Ain Shams University

**Dr/ Asmaa Talaat Mohamed**

Lecturer of Community Health Nursing

Faculty of Nursing - Ain Shams University

**Faculty of Nursing  
Ain Shams University  
2020**



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***Heba Mohamed Ahmed Radwan***

## *Dedication*

*This work dedicated to the most important persons in my life....to my mother, my father, my husband for their.*

*Encouragement*

*Cooperation*

*Support*

*And*

*Effort*

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## List of Abbreviations

<i>Abbr.</i>	<i>Full-term</i>
<b>AIDS</b>	Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome
<b>CDC</b>	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<b>HSE</b>	Health and Safety Executive
<b>HWL</b>	Healthy Working Lives
<b>HIV</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
<b>ILO</b>	International Labor Organization
<b>NIOSH</b>	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
<b>OSHA</b>	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
<b>OHD</b>	Occupational Health Directorate
<b>OHN</b>	Occupational Health Nurse
<b>PPE</b>	Personal Protective Equipment
<b>RPE</b>	Respiratory Protective Equipment
<b>SCBA</b>	Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus
<b>WHO</b>	World Health Organization
<b>WEA</b>	Work Environment Authority

# Workers Awareness Related to Occupational Hazards Of Ceramic Industry

Heba Mohamed Ahmed

Prof. Dr: Hanaa Abd Elhakim Ahmed, Dr. Asmaa Talaat Mohamed

Department of Community Health Nursing  
Faculty of Nursing, Ain Shams University

## Abstract

**Background:** An occupational hazards is a hazard experienced in the workplace. It can encompass many types of hazards, including chemical, biological (biohazards), psychosocial, and physical. **Aim:** is to assess the workers awareness related to occupational hazards of ceramic industry. **Research design:** A descriptive analytical design was utilized in the study. **Setting:** The study was conducted in a ceramic factory in Suez governorate Egypt. **Sampling:** A purposive sample composed of one hundred and fourty two (142) workers. **Tools:** two tools were used for data collection of study include, **first tool:** Self administrated questionnaire, **second tool:** perception scale. **Results:** The main results of study revealed that most of three quarters related to workers have satisfactory knowledge level about occupational hazards. Total level of reported practice more than half quarters of workers have unhealthy practices and more than three quarters reported exposure to daily occupational risks of high temperature and accidents and injuries. .Showed more three quarters of the ceramic industry workers have a negative perception toward occupational hazards. **Conclusions:** There were more than three quarters of workers have satisfactory knowledge level about occupational hazards and more than half of workers have unhealthy practice and more than three quarters of workers have negative perception toward occupational hazards. **Recommendation:** Further studies should be conducted health educational programs for improve their healthy practice and positive perception regarding occupational work safety.

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**Keywords:** workers, awareness, occupational hazards, ceramic, personal protective equipment, occupational health nurse.

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## **Introduction**

**O**ccupational health is the study of promotion and maintenance of the highest degree of physical, mental and social well-being workers in all occupations. The main focus in occupational health is to maintain worker's health and working capacity, to improve the working environment to become conducive to safety and health, and to develop the working organizations and cultures in a direction which supports health and safety of people (*Sah, 2016*).

Occupational hazard of the most important public health problems in the workplace. It is recognized widely that it has increased the incidents that cause absenteeism from work and lost productivity rate, permanent disability and even death and human suffering caused by harmless for the employee and the employer and society injuries (*Tadesse & Israel, 2016*).

Occupational Hazards defined as a hazard experienced in the workplace or something unpleasant that suffer or experience as a result of doing job or hobby (*The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), 2018*).

Air polluted by dust in workplace is associated with a wide variety of occupational respiratory diseases. Ceramic factory workers exposed to dust particles generated in many phases of ceramic production are potentially at risk to develop occupational respiratory diseases. Chronic inhalation exposure to ceramic dust has been elevated risk of pneumoconiosis, chronic bronchitis and ventilatory disorders among both male and female workers (*Environmental Health and Safety, 2019*).

Occupational injuries and diseases still contribute sizably to mortality and morbidity on a world-wide scale. More than 350 000 workers lose their lives each year due to occupational injuries (*Haagsma et al., 2016*). Work-related ergonomic and psychosocial stressors are not life-threatening but can cause considerable morbidity and are major drivers of work absence. Musculoskeletal diseases and mental disorders are significant contributors to the amount of years lived with disability (*Kassebaum et al., 2016*).

Awareness is the ability to directly know and perceive, to feel, or to be cognizant of events. More broadly, it is the state or - quality of being conscious of something. Awareness may be focused on an internal state, such as a visceral feeling, or on external events by way of sensory perception (*Central Cambridge University, 2016*).

When workers are aware of the health and safety risks in their workplace, they can follow safe work practices. Information about workers' current and changing awareness about health and safety hazards, risk perception and safe work practices can help to understand where to apply prevention strategies (*National Safety Council, 2018*).

Risk perception is the ability of an individual to determine a certain amount of risk, and risk tolerance refers to a person's ability to accept a certain amount of risk. Therefore, the study of workers risk perception is important as individuals are responsible for the risks perceived in their work environment (*Carrico & et al, 2015*).

Worldwide, every 15 seconds, a worker dies from a work-related accident or disease. Every 15 seconds, 153 workers have a work-related accident. Every day, 6,300 people die as a result of occupational accidents or work-related diseases – more than 2.3 million deaths per year. 337 million accidents occur on the job annually; many of these resulting in extended absences from work. The human cost of this daily adversity is vast and the economic burden of poor occupational safety and health practices is estimated at 4 percent of global Gross Domestic Product each year approximately, 600 million workers are exposed to occupational noise (*International Labor Organization (ILO), 2015*).

*The American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, (2019)* describes an occupational health nurse as someone who “provides for and delivers health and safety programs and services to workers, worker populations and community groups. The practice focuses on promotion and restoration of health, prevention of illness and injury, and protection from work-related and environmental hazards. Occupational and environmental health nurses have a combined knowledge of health and business that they blend with health care expertise to balance the requirement for a safe and healthful work environment with a healthy bottom line.