

ORAL HEALTH SERVICE UTILIZATION BY EL-AMRIA CEMENT COMPANY WORKERS

Hala Abbas Amer* and Susan Mohamed Saleh**

ABSTRACT

This work aimed to study utilization of oral health services in terms of rate of utilization, the type of treatment received, the place i.e. the oral health facility in which such services were provided and the barriers to utilizing the health insurance services by workers and employees (controls) of El-Amria cement company. The present study was also conducted to determine whether the perceptions of study population concerning occupational hazards were related to their utilization of oral health services.

The present survey was conducted on a total sample of 111 workers and controls, randomly drawn from different sectors and department of El-Amria cement company. A specially designed questionnaire form was used to collect relevant data. The results of the study revealed a high rate of utilization of oral health services among El-Amria workers and controls. Private clinics were the facilities of higher demand for oral health services. Extraction of teeth constituted the major bulk of services received. The most frequently reported barriers to health insurance service by controls and workers were the poor quality of oral care service, provided by health insurance and that no advices were given by dentists for prevention of occupational hazards respectively. The study also showed a high perception to occupational hazards among study population that was significantly associated to their actual need and utilization of oral health services. Availability of shared payment: facilities and improving the quality of oral health care services provided by such subsidized services are recommended.

*¹ Ass, Prof. Pedodontics and community Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Alex. University.

**² Lecturer, Pedodontics and community Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Alex, University.