

Developing Occupational Health and Safety National Indicators

A. Pardo, A. Griffel, A. Pridor

Abstract

Background

There exists no official, orderly publication of indicators reflecting the state of occupational health in Israel, similar to those common in other Western countries. Similarly, there is no organized, orderly and comprehensive data collection in this area.

Objectives

Definition of a group of indicators relating to inputs, outputs and outcomes in the area of occupational health that is appropriate for the State of Israel; Definition of practical ways to measure these and to compare them to equivalent indicators in selected countries.

Methodology

Literature survey of occupational health indicators in the world and Israel was conducted to establish a list of appropriate indicators. A theory-based classification of indicators by content groups provided the rationale and justification for a balanced and concise set of indicators. Content validity was done employing the Action system theory and the Facet Theory methodology. Local experts' opinions were obtained by means of an interview and a questionnaire providing a feedback and rating the indicators by their importance, current availability of data and the feasibility of future data collection.

Main Findings

The methodology produced ideal set of indicators that were organized into four groups: infrastructure and resources; working conditions; rehabilitation; and outcomes (rates of illness/injury). The applicability of the indicators from each group were evaluated based on data currently available or data that could feasibly be gathered within the next few years.