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Socialization of Occupational Health and Safety to the Construction Worker Community

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ABSTRACT

Hazards related to working at heights include falling from height, falling objects, electrical hazards and weather conditions. Labor Law No. 1 of 1970 concerning occupational safety regulates the prevention of worker accidents in Indonesia. This study aimed to describe the socialization activities of occupational safety and health among construction workers in Palembang. Occupational safety and health socialization activities are carried out online using Google Meet every week during June 2020. Four meetings were held, each meeting duration of 2 hours. This activity was attended by around 164 members of the construction community of South Sumatra, Indonesia. The socialization activities were carried out by presenting material, questions and answers and mini demonstrations of occupational safety and health. In conclusion, Occupational safety and health socialization activities increase the knowledge and awareness of workers in applying work safety principles.

1. Introduction

Working at height or in building construction can pose significant hazards, including the risk of falling, which can result in serious injuries or even death.¹ Hazards related to working at heights include falling from a height, falling objects, electrical hazards, and weather conditions.²⁻⁴ Falling from a height is the most common hazard associated with working at heights. It can occur due to a lack of fall protection systems, unstable surfaces, and improper use of equipment. Workers at heights can also be at risk of falling objects such as tools, equipment, and materials.^{5,6} Weather conditions can also pose hazards to workers at heights. Strong winds, rain, or snow can make surfaces slippery and unstable, increasing the risk of falling. To prevent hazards related to working at

heights, employers must provide adequate training to workers on safe work practices, the use of personal protective equipment, and the proper use of equipment. Employers should also conduct regular inspections of equipment and work areas to identify and address hazards promptly.

Labor Law No. 1 of 1970 concerning occupational safety regulates the prevention of worker accidents in Indonesia.⁷ This law contains terms, scope, requirements for work safety, supervision, guidance, the committee for work safety and health, work accidents, obligations and rights of workers, obligations when entering the workplace, and obligations of the management. This law is the legal basis for the protection of workers' safety in carrying out their work. This study aimed to describe the

socialization activities of occupational safety and health among construction workers in Palembang.

2. Methods

Occupational safety and health outreach activities are carried out online using Google Meet (Google Inc., California, USA) every week during June 2020. The meetings were held 4 times, with a duration of 2 hours each. The first meeting contained material on the introduction of the importance of occupational health and safety according to the principles of occupational health and safety.⁸⁻¹⁰ The next meeting, focused on work safety in construction, especially those using scaffolding and heights, continued with the methods and principles of occupational safety and health in the construction of scaffolding competencies.¹¹⁻¹³ This activity was attended by around 164 members of the construction community of South Sumatra, Indonesia. The socialization activities were carried out by presenting material, question and answer, and mini demonstrations of occupational safety and health.

3. Results and Discussion

Occupational safety and health socialization activities received quite good public enthusiasm. Where there were 164 Google Meet accounts that participated in this socialization, and each account was followed by several participants. If 4 people participated in each account, it could be assumed that the activity participants reached up to 984 people. Enthusiasm was not only proven by a large number of community participants but also by enthusiasm for questions and answers that were followed by the socialization participants. In every session, there are always lots of questions and comments from the socialization participants.

These socialization and educational activities were also able to provide good enough knowledge for the socialization participants. Participants get fairly good knowledge about occupational safety and health. There was an increase in the knowledge score of the participants in the socialization before attending the socialization and after attending the socialization.

With the increase in knowledge, it is hoped that the attitude and behavior will emerge for occupational safety and health.

Occupational safety and health is a field concerned with developing, promoting, and maintaining a workplace environment, policies, and programs that ensure the mental, physical, and emotional well-being of employees and keep the workplace environment relatively free from actual disturbances or potential hazards that may injure employees.^{14,15} This socialization activity is expected to increase workers' awareness of applying the principles of health and safety in the workplace.

4. Conclusion

Occupational safety and health socialization activities increase the knowledge and awareness of workers in applying work safety principles.

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