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**PhD Dissertation Defense**

Entitled

*THE PREVALENCE OF LOST TIME INJURIES & FATALITIES AMONG CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN AL  
AIN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES*

by

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Date & Venue

1:00 PM

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Yanah Theatre

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Abstract

Few population-based data were available about the prevalence of injuries and fatalities among migrant workers employed in the construction industry in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The purpose of this dissertation was to identify the prevalence of lost time injuries (LTIs) and fatalities among construction workers in Al Ain, UAE. A cross-sectional study design was used to determine the prevalence of injuries resulting in one or more days of sick leave (lost time) in a random sample (n=1,626) of male construction workers in 2020.

The mean age of study participants was 35 years ( $\pm 8.4$ ). The majority (67.1%) of study participants had Indian nationality, followed by Nepal (11.6%), Pakistan (10.2%), Bangladesh (7.7%), and other countries (3.3%). The overall prevalence of lost time injury was 11.1% (95% CI 9.7-12.8). However, the overall LTIs rate based on the workers' compensation data of surveillance system during five years of the study period under-estimated the burden of LTIs, which was 1.35 per 100 Full Time Equivalent (95% CI 1.3-2.0). In this study, LTIs resulted from the lifting and handling activities (38.1%), falls from height (37.1%), struck by objects (7.6%), electrocution (5.7%), slip (5.3%), caught between two objects (3.8%), and other reasons (2.3%). Working as a manual worker or electrician, Bangladeshi nationality, and lack of safety training were independent risk factors for the LTIs. The overall crude fatality rate due to injury was 3.2, 4.5, 3.9, 6.1, and 2.5 per 100,000 workers for the years 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020, respectively. The present study was the first to document injuries and fatalities among the construction workers in UAE.

**Keywords:** Workplace injuries, lost time injuries, construction industry, workers compensation, Al Ain, UAE.