Non-melanoma skin cancer and occupational exposure in Brazil

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The non-melanoma skin cancer has high incidence and may have an important relation with occupational factors from different natures. The aim of this study was to describe cases of non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC) in residents of a Health District in Recife (Brazil) according to occupational exposure, and health conditions and predisposing factors to skin cancer. This was a descriptive case series study, whose population was limited to NMSC cases of the population-based cancer registry (PBCR) of Recife (Brazil), with confirmed diagnostic between the years of 2005 and 2007. Were surveyed 32 cases of which 31 were diagnosed with basal cell carcinoma? Most of cases were female; mean age was 66.5 years, low income, and elementary school incomplete. The cases were more frequent among outdoor working activities such as construction, commerce, agriculture and washer women, most of them were exposed to chemicals like pesticides, solvents, fuels, dyes, also to solar and not solar radiation. Some of these individuals had their occupational exposure at young age, mostly between informal workers. A possible dose-response effect was observed, and affected more who used to work without individual protection equipment. The more intense and persistent the exposure was, more relapses or new primary cancer injuries have been reported. Representative samples of the population and analytic studies are needed to have a better comprehension about these relations between NMSC and occupation.

Biography

Ana Catarina Alves e Silva is graduated in Dentistry, at University of Pernambuco (2008). She has experience in dentistry with emphasis on Public health, and experience as clinical dentist of the Multidisciplinary Residency Program in Family Health at the Professor Fernando Figueira Integrative Medicine Institute (IMIP). She is also a postgraduate in public health, labor and Forensic Dentistry, and has Master degree in Public Health, with research in epidemiology, and study cancer surveillance of work-related.

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