Abstract

WORK RELATED INJURIES
A PERSPECTIVE BASED ON A SURVEY
OF FOUR JAMAICAN COMPANIES

Hope V. A. Julal
1996

The health problems of workers in four companies in the manufacturing
sector of Jamaican industry were explored in a sample of ninety seven
workers. The workers were interviewed using a structured questionnaire
containing five sections: personal profile, occupational history,
perceptions, attitudes and recommendations. Over 50% of the workers
reported having an accident with an associated injury while working, and
more than 27.8% were of the perception that health-related risks
associated with working conditions were high.

The incidence of work related injuries in these companies is discussed, as
well as factors associated with their occurrence. The implications of
these results are examined relative to the present coping mechanisms
aimed at work injury prevention.

Occupational health has not received much legislative attention in the
past. Recent proposals for a new National Industrial Policy for Jamaica
do not suggest imminent action in terms of injury prevention policies.