

Injured Workers' Access to Health Care

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Introduction

- Why injured workers?
- What do we know about injured workers and their health?
 - Qualitative Research
 - Access issues with health care due to stigma
 - Quantitative Research (Focus on Injury Question)
 - “Work Injuries” Wilkins & Mackenzie (2007)
 - “The relationship between chronic conditions and work-related injuries and repetitive strain injuries in Canada” Smith, Bielecky, & Mustard (2012)

Methods

- Exploratory and descriptive data
- STATA 13
- Canadian Community Health Survey 2009/10
- Focus on people who reported difficulty hearing, seeing, communicating, walking, climbing stairs, bending, learning or doing any similar activities
- Ages 25 to 65

| RAC_5 - Cause of Disability Status | Recoded Disability |
|---|---------------------------|
| 01 – Accident at Home | Accident (01, 02, 04) |
| 02 – Motor Vehicle Accident | Work Accident (03) |
| 03 – Accident at Work | Existed at Birth (05) |
| 04 – Other Type of Accident | Work Conditions (06) |
| 05 – Existed at Birth | Disease or Illness (07) |
| 06 – Work Conditions | Ageing (6) |
| 07 – Disease or Illness | Other (09, 10, 11) |
| 08 – Ageing | |
| 09 – Emotional or Mental Health problems | |
| 10 – Use of Drugs or Alcohol | |
| 11 – Other Reasons | |

| | Work-Related Accident | Work Conditions | Accident | Birth | Disease or Illness | Ageing | Other |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Gender (Female) | | | | | | | |
| Male | 68.5 | 63.7 | 51.4 ^{***} | 44.3 ^{***} | 38.1 ^{***} | 45.2 ^{***} | 39.1 ^{***} |
| Marital Status (Previous married) | | | | | | | |
| Married | 70.5 | 77.9 ^{***} | 67.9 | 57.5 ^{***} | 68.5 | 76.3 ^{**} | 58.7 ^{***} |
| Single | 13.8 | 11.2 | 17.9 ^{**} | 28.8 ^{***} | 14.8 | 8.8 ^{**} | 25.6 ^{***} |
| Self-Perceived Health Status (Poor) | | | | | | | |
| Good | 70.1 | 83.0 ^{***} | 77.7 ^{***} | 79.5 ^{***} | 61.2 ^{***} | 82.1 ^{***} | 73.5 |
| Household Income (Under \$20,000) | | | | | | | |
| \$20,000-\$39,999 | 28.7 | 27.0 | 22.6 ^{**} | 20.2 ^{***} | 22.7 ^{***} | 24.8 | 22.1 ^{**} |
| \$40,000-\$59,999 | 22.1 | 18.6 | 15.7 ^{***} | 15.7 ^{**} | 16.5 ^{**} | 17.8 [*] | 15.1 ^{***} |
| \$60,000+ | 16.9 | 26.3 ^{***} | 22.4 ^{**} | 19.0 | 16.5 | 24.4 ^{***} | 16.6 |

Significance Tests comparing to work-related disabilities: * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

| | Work-Related Accident | Work Conditions | Accident | Birth | Disease or Illness | Ageing | Other |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Education (Less than High School) | | | | | | | |
| High school | 18.8 | 13.0 ^{***} | 12.8 ^{**} | 14.8 [*] | 15.2 [*] | 14.8 [*] | 15.6 |
| Some post secondary | 8.5 | 7.5 | 7.3 | 8.1 | 7.8 | 6.0 [*] | 10.2 |
| Post secondary | 57.0 | 60.5 | 65.2 ^{***} | 58.9 | 60.9 | 61.6 | 58.6 |
| Age (20-29) | | | | | | | |
| 30 - 39 | 14.5 | 14.7 | 20.7 ^{***} | 21.0 ^{***} | 13.7 | 5.8 ^{***} | 27.0 ^{***} |
| 40-49 | 28.8 | 30.2 | 32.5 | 30.5 | 25.8 | 21.8 ^{**} | 27.6 |
| 50 + | 51.1 | 49.4 | 37.8 ^{***} | 32.9 ^{***} | 55.9 [*] | 71.2 ^{***} | 32.6 ^{***} |
| Community Type (Rural) | | | | | | | |
| Urban | 75.8 | 77.0 | 79.6 [*] | 80.1 [*] | 82.1 ^{***} | 78.9 | 84.4 ^{***} |

Significance Tests comparing to work-related disabilities: * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

| | Work-Related | Work Conditions | Accident | Birth | Disease or Illness | Ageing | Other |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------|----------|---------|--------------------|---------|---------|
| Chronic Conditions (None) | | | | | | | |
| 1 or more | 83.3 | 77.7* | 81.6 | 73.6*** | 86.5 | 76.9** | 76.9** |
| Current Smoker (No) | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 40.0 | 30.2*** | 29.6*** | 25.8*** | 26.0*** | 25.6*** | 32.7** |
| Drinks Alcoholic Beverages (No) | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 79.5 | 83.2 | 82.3 | 75.1 | 74.6** | 81.9 | 78.6 |
| Occupation Type (Sales and Service) | | | | | | | |
| Blue Collar | 38.8 | 36.5 | 20.5*** | 17.7*** | 16.1*** | 23.4*** | 16.0*** |
| White Collar | 29.2 | 37.5* | 53.3*** | 55.6*** | 55.1*** | 51.9*** | 56.1*** |
| Health | 8.8 | 6.0 | 5.8* | 4.6** | 8.4 | 4.9*** | 7.5 |
| Employed in the last 12 months (No) | | | | | | | |
| Yes | 72.3 | 86.2*** | 74.9 | 76.4 | 64.8*** | 76.4* | 73.6 |

Significance Tests comparing to work-related disabilities: * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Chiropractor Visits

| | Coefficient | Standard Error | P > z ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Work-Related Accident (Reference) | | | |
| Work Conditions | - 0.26 | 0.15 | |
| Accident | 0.14 | 0.13 | |
| Birth | - 0.38 | 0.16 | * |
| Disease or Illness | - 0.40 | 0.13 | ** |
| Ageing | - 0.30 | 0.15 | * |
| Other | - 0.66 | 0.16 | *** |

¹ * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: chronic conditions, self-perceived health status, gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Physiotherapist Visits

| | Coefficient | Standard Error | P > z ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Work-Related Accident (Reference) | | | |
| Work Conditions | - 0.94 | 0.14 | *** |
| Accident | - 0.32 | 0.12 | ** |
| Birth | - 1.64 | 0.15 | *** |
| Disease or Illness | - 1.28 | 0.12 | *** |
| Ageing | - 1.48 | 0.19 | *** |
| Other | - 1.60 | 0.18 | *** |

¹ * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: chronic conditions, self-perceived health status, gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Family Doctor Visits

| | Coefficient | Standard Error | P > z ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Work-Related Accident (Reference) | | | |
| Work Conditions | - 0.35 | 0.06 | *** |
| Accident | - 0.21 | 0.05 | *** |
| Birth | - 0.35 | 0.06 | *** |
| Disease or Illness | -0.10 | 0.06 | |
| Ageing | - 0.52 | 0.06 | *** |
| Other | - 0.17 | 0.06 | ** |

¹ * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: chronic conditions, self-perceived health status, gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Other Medical Doctors or Specialists Visits

| | Coefficient | Standard Error | P > z ¹ |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Work-Related Accident (Reference) | | | |
| Work Conditions | - 0.37 | 0.12 | ** |
| Accident | - 0.01 | 0.09 | |
| Birth | 0.11 | 0.12 | |
| Disease or Illness | 0.31 | 0.09 | *** |
| Ageing | - 0.41 | 0.10 | *** |
| Other | 0.38 | 0.10 | *** |

¹ * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: chronic conditions, self-perceived health status, gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Reporting Poor Health Logistic Regression

| | Coefficient | Standard Error | P > z ¹ |
|---------------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Work Accident (Reference) | | | |
| Work Conditions | 0.54 | 0.07 | *** |
| Accident | 0.77 | 0.09 | * |
| Birth | 0.70 | 0.09 | ** |
| Disease or Illness | 1.63 | 0.17 | *** |
| Ageing | 0.51 | 0.07 | *** |
| Other | 1.00 | 0.14 | |

¹ * 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Diagnosed chronic health conditions

| | Asthma | Arthritis | Back | Migraines | Ulcer | Mood |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|---------|
| Work Accident (Reference) | | | | | | |
| Work Conditions | 0.73* | 0.72** | 0.57*** | 0.68** | 0.53** | 1.02 |
| Accident | 1.22 | 0.82 | 0.74** | 1.13 | 0.91 | 0.83 |
| Birth | 1.47** | 0.73** | 0.28*** | 0.96 | 0.62* | 0.76* |
| Disease or Illness | 1.43** | 1.15 | 0.31*** | 0.87 | 0.83 | 0.93 |
| Ageing | 1.17 | 0.79* | 0.31*** | 0.60*** | 0.62* | 0.66** |
| Other | 1.14 | 0.43*** | 0.23*** | 0.91 | 0.80 | 3.42*** |

* 0.05 ** 0.01 *** 0.001

Control Variables: self-perceived health status, gender, age, marital status, education, household income, household size, community type, country of birth, province/territory

Conclusion and Next Steps

- Unique traits of people with work-related disabilities
- Accessing Health Care
- Chronic Conditions – Are they more unhealthy?
- Next Steps ...