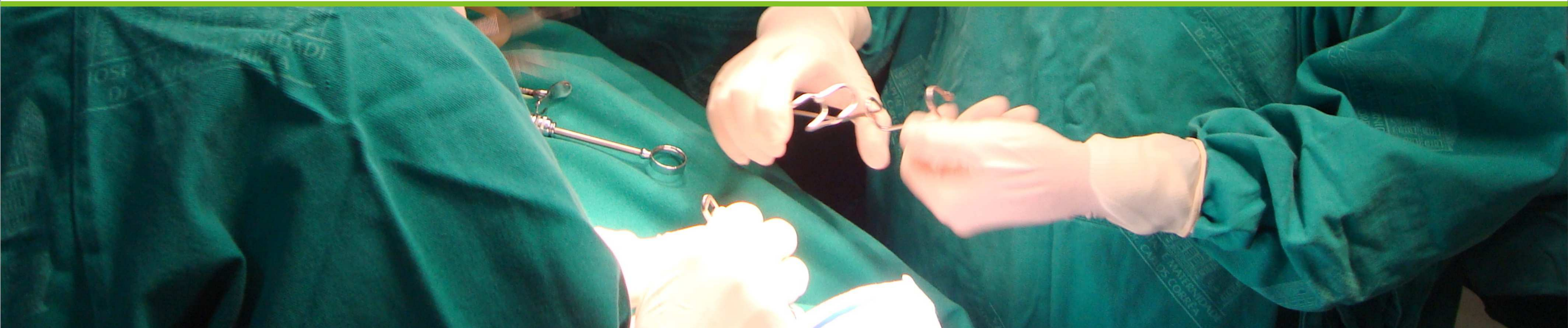


EPIDEMIOLOGY OF ACCIDENTS AT WORK IN A HOSPITAL UNIT OF THE REGION OF OPORTO

Martins Matilde¹, Silva Norberto², Barbieri Maria³, Correia Teresa¹
Instituto Politécnico de Bragança-Escola Superior de Saúde¹
Unidade Local de Saúde do Nordeste²
Escola Superior de Enfermagem do Porto³



INTRODUCTION: Work accidents constitute a public health problem. The hospital environment is complex and represents a large number of occupational hazards for both workers providing direct care and for support services.

AIMS: To describe an epidemiological profile of accidents at work in a hospital in the region of Porto in 2010. Identify the main consequences of accidents at work.

PARTICIPANTS AND METHODS: A retrospective cross-sectional epidemiological study, for the period from January 1 to December 31, 2010. The information was obtained using the register for notification of accidents on 130 workers, a population of 2300. Data collection was performed by one of the researchers, after authorization by the Board of Directors held during the month of April 2011 on weekdays between 9:00 and 17:00 hours in the Occupational Health. Once coded and entered, the information was analyzed using the SPSS® software.

RESULTS:

Table nº1 - Characterization of the sample

Variables	Accidents without low		Accidents with low		Total		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Gender	Male	9	6.9	9	6.9	18	13.8
	Female	81	62.3	31	23.9	112	86.6
Jobs	Nurses	41	31.5	14	10.8	55	42.3
	Medical Auxiliaries	37	28.5	23	17.7	60	46.2
	Other staff	12	9.2	3	2.3	15	11.5
Qualifications	≤ 12º year	25	19.7	42	32.3	67	51.5
	High Level Course	48	36.9	15	11.5	63	48.5
Time Table	Fixed	21	16.2	9	6.9	30	23.1
	Shifts	69	53.1	31	23.8	100	76.9

The accidents were more prevalent in the age group between 30-34 years 82.5%; •With length of service >10 years 38.5%; • And in the legal regime of appointment 93.8%.

Table nº2 – Characterization of the accidents

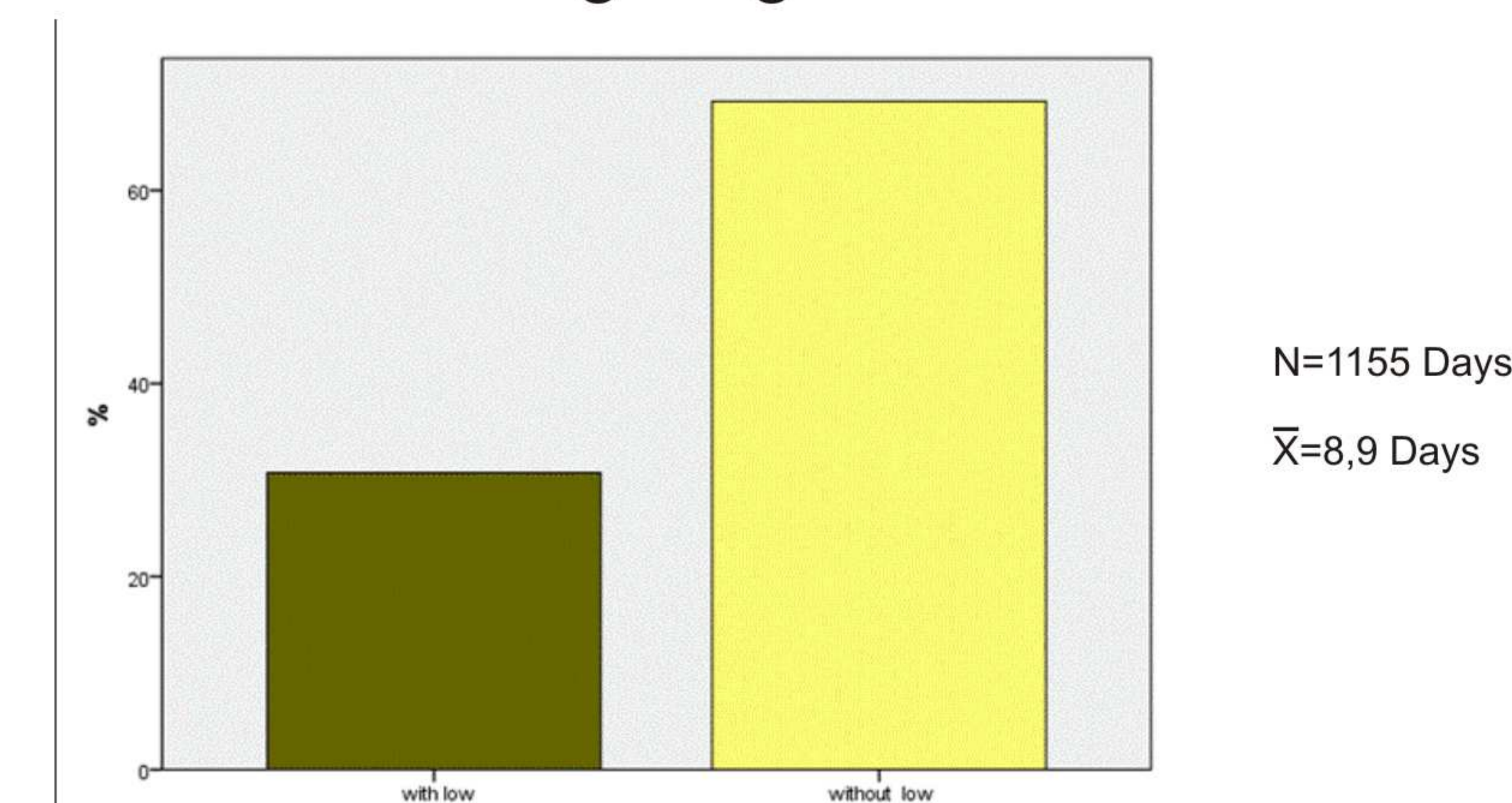
Variables	Accidents without low		Accidents with low		Total		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Local	Internment	40	30.8	8	6.2	48	36.9
	Urgency Service/Surgery block	24	18.5	7	5.4	31	23.8
	In itinere	4	3.1	12	9.2	16	12.3
Type of injury	Stairs/ between services	12	9.2	9	6.6	21	16.2
	Others	10	7.7	4	3.1	14	10.8
	Falls	24	18.5	19	14.6	43	33.1
	Cuts/Court	43	31.1	13	10.0	56	41.3
Agent of the injury	Excessive efforts	17	13.1	8	6.2	25	19.2
	Others	6	4.6	0	0.0	6	4.6
	Tools	33	25.4	7	5.4	40	30.8
Agent of the injury	Pavement	18	13.8	17	13.1	35	26.9
	Means of transport	6	4.6	7	5.4	13	10.0
	Move of patient	17	13.1	6	4.6	23	17.3
	Others	16	12.3	3	2.3	19	14.6

The accident occurred on average at 12.4 hours ($s=\pm 4.4$);
•The greater prevalence of accidents occurred in the first 3 hours, and 49.2% in the first two weekly rest day compared to 56.2%.

Table nº3 – Consequences of the accident

Variables	Accidents without low		Accidents with low		Total		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	
Type injure	Scar	32	24.6	6	4.6	38	29.2
	Sprain / Strain	18	13.8	13	10.0	31	23.8
	Contusion / Crushing	19	14.6	13	10.0	31	24.6
	Others	21	16.2	8	6.2	29	22.3
Part of the body injured	Head/Face	12	9.2	2	1.5	14	10.8
	Body	13	10.0	9	6.9	22	16.9
	Superior Members	43	33.1	9	6.9	52	40.0
	Inferior Members	22	16.9	20	15.4	42	32.3

Chart nº1 - Weighting of accidents due to low



CONCLUSION: The profile of accidents at work can relate to the work performed, education and injury. This knowledge constitutes a scientific support for the implementation of preventive measures.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

Administração Central do Sistema de Saúde. Acidentes de Trabalho 2007. Lisboa: Unidade Funcional de Planeamento de Estudos e Recursos Humanos; 2009.
Uva Sousa. Salud y Seguridad del trabajo em Portugal. Revista de Medicina y Seguridad del Trabajo 2009; 55 (214): 12-25.
OSHA Agência Europeia para a Segurança. Segurança e Saúde no Trabalho.2009. [Accessed in 2010 in Jan. 29]. Available in. <http://pt.osha.eu.int/statistics/static.smt>

ADDRESS:

Instituto Politécnico de Bragança
5301- 856 Bragança, Portugal
Telf.: +351 273 303 000
E-mail: matildemartins@ipb.pt