

Severe Injury and the Need for Improved Safety Training Among Working Teens

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Objectives: To evaluate work characteristics and safety training among teenagers with severe work-related injuries. **Methods:** A questionnaire was administered to 6810 high school Wisconsin students in May 2003. **Results:** Fifteen percent of working teens reported being injured at work. Variables associated with severe injury included having a near-miss incident at work (AOR=8.72, 95%CI=5.51-13), working after 11:00 PM (AOR=4.21,

95%CI=2.08-8.53), and being asked to do something dangerous (AOR=2.59, 95%CI=1.53-4.39). **Conclusions:** Prohibiting teens from working long and late hours, improved safety training, and increased communication between teens and their coworkers and supervisors may help reduce the occurrence of injury.

Key words: teens at work, safety training, injury

Am J Health Behav. 2006;30(5):525-532
