



D38 A Study of Pulmonary Function in Workers at Flour Mills in Duhabi, Nepal

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The goal of this research project was to create awareness among the workers at flour mills about the health hazards and consequences of smoking so that the workers as well as government, in a developing country like Nepal, should take appropriate measures to prevent respiratory health hazards due to flour dust pollution.

Exposed to flour dust, 52 male workers were evaluated for pulmonary function, respiratory symptoms and smoking habits. The study showed a significant reduction in FVC, FEV₁, PEF, FEF 25-75%, and MVV. Flourmill workers who smoked showed further significant deterioration of lung function parameters when compared to non-smokers. From this study it can be concluded that those exposed to flour dust contract a combined type of spirometric deficit revealing obstructive disease and smokers working in such an environment are prone to develop further reduction in pulmonary function parameters.

Pulmonary Function, Smoking, Flour Dust Exposure