ABSTRACT

This paper reviews occupational health and safety intervention studies published between 1988 and 1993 to gauge the nature and extent of research in this area. Generally, the studies often lacked a theoretical basis, used small samples, and tested interventions lacking the intensity to cause the desired change. Most designs were either nonexperimental or quasi-experimental with uncontrolled sources of bias. Recommendations for future research include methods of minimizing the problems and bias s caused by these weaknesses. Nonmethodological issues such as the costs of implementing interventions and the cultural and political dimensions of the workplace are also addressed. Although many methodological issues associated with field-based research are not easily addressed, researchers should make a stronger attempt to address these issues if the field of occupational health and safety intervention research is to be productive.

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