

MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE

SCOPE

- INTRODUCTION
- OBJECTIVES OF MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE
- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DOCTOR AND ITS ROLE
- ANALYSIS REPORT
- EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT PRACTICE IN CONDUCTING MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE PERTAINING TO SELECTED CHEMICALS
- WAY-FORWARD

INTRODUCTION

- The Occupational Safety and Health (Classification, Labelling and Safety Data Sheet of Hazardous Chemicals) Regulations 2013 (**CLASS Regulation**) and the Manual of Chemical Health Risk Assessment 2000 requires employers to assess whether there is any significant exposure of chemicals to the worker and if further medical surveillance is necessary.
- Based on the type of work being performed, including consideration of factors such as the duration of the task, the materials being used, and the potential for exposure, medical surveillance is either recommended or required for the job.

INTRODUCTION

- The Occupational Safety And Health (Use and Standards of Exposure Of Chemical Hazardous to Health) Regulation 2000 (**USECHH Regulation**) is a regulation to enhance the safe and healthy use of chemicals.
- Under USECHH, Medical Surveillance should be conducted by an **Occupational Health Doctor** (OHD).

INTRODUCTION

- The Occupational Health Doctor will determine the scope of the exam, then inform the supervisor of their recommendations based on the exam results. The supervisor will discuss these recommendations, if any, with the employee. The employee can contact the Occupational Health Doctor who performs the exam with any questions regarding the test results.
- Specific test results(**BM** and **BEM**) and other personal medical information generated by these exams will be kept confidential between the employee and the Occupational Health Doctor.

OBJECTIVES


- To detect early deviations from health of workers who are susceptible and at high risk.
- To allow early intervention by all concerned so that occupational disease and poisoning can be prevented
- Reference to this document is important to ensure consistency in investigation and reporting.

OBJECTIVES

- The employer must conduct the basic medical examinations and surveillance, and if the industries want to do more than the basics, they are encouraged to do so.
- Based on these returns, DOSH will be in much more professional and scientific position to evaluate both short and long term effect of chemicals to health

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH DOCTOR?

Under Occupational Safety and Health (Use and Standards of Exposure of Chemicals Hazardous to Health) Regulations 2000 stipulated that Occupational Health Doctors means a medical practitioner (registered under the Medical Act 1971 and possessing a valid Annual Practising Certificate) who is registered with the Director General of Department of Safety and Health to conduct medical surveillance of employees.

- 
- Currently , Malaysia has 12.5 million workers who require various healthcare services which are provided by Occupational Health Doctors.
 - The number of Occupational Health Doctors which are registered with the Department as of August 2015 stands at 982 doctors .
 - The OHD: worker ratio stands at 1: 12,729

OHD JOB DESCRIPTION

- OHD's are encouraged to participate in the CHRA. **Walk through survey** is important to appreciate the type of hazards and control in place.
- Conduct the pre-employment and pre-placement medical examination
- **Interpret and explain** the results of the medical surveillance and investigations to the EMPLOYEE and EMPLOYER and to also specify further follow up action is necessary

OHD JOB DESCRIPTION

- If the worker is not fit to work, **medical removal** must be carried out
- If the workers have abnormal results , fill in the abnormal results in form USECHH 5ii
- As soon as the results of the Medical Surveillance are available, the OHD **must send** a Summary of the Medical Surveillance USECHH 4 to DOSH HQ

[USECHH 4.docx](#)

[USECHH 5i.docx](#)

[USECHH 5ii.docx](#)

OHD JOB DESCRIPTION

- Investigate the cause of the Occupational Disease or Poisoning and recommend remedial actions, help facilitate treatment, rehabilitation, disability assesment, return to work and/or compensation
- Reinforce the value of **prevention education/training** in Occupational Health to both employee and employer.
- Maintain the medical records of employee during the course of employment(pre-employment. Periodic and post termination- **30 years**)

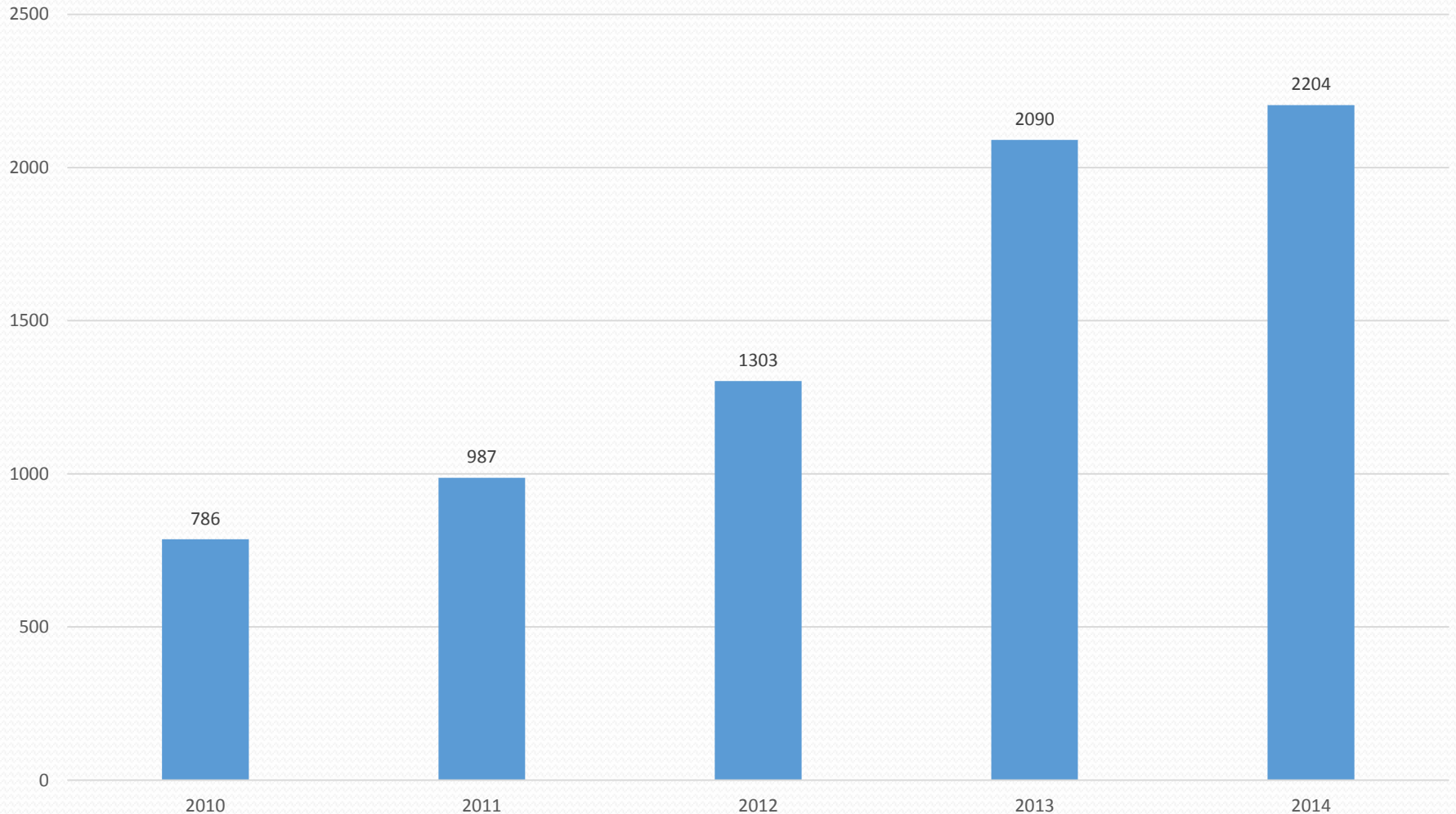
MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE ANALYSIS REPORT

JANUARY 2015 – JULAI 2015

Medical Surveillance 2014

- For the year 2014, the Occupational Health Division of DOSH had received 2204 Medical Surveillance report from registered Occupational Health Doctor (OHD) from all over Malaysia
- From the reports received, 33178 workers in the country had underwent medical surveillance by OHD.
- Out of the 33178 workers, 88 workers were recommended to undergo Medical Removal Protection until they were certified fit to be included back into the current work area.

MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE REPORTS RECEIVED BY YEAR

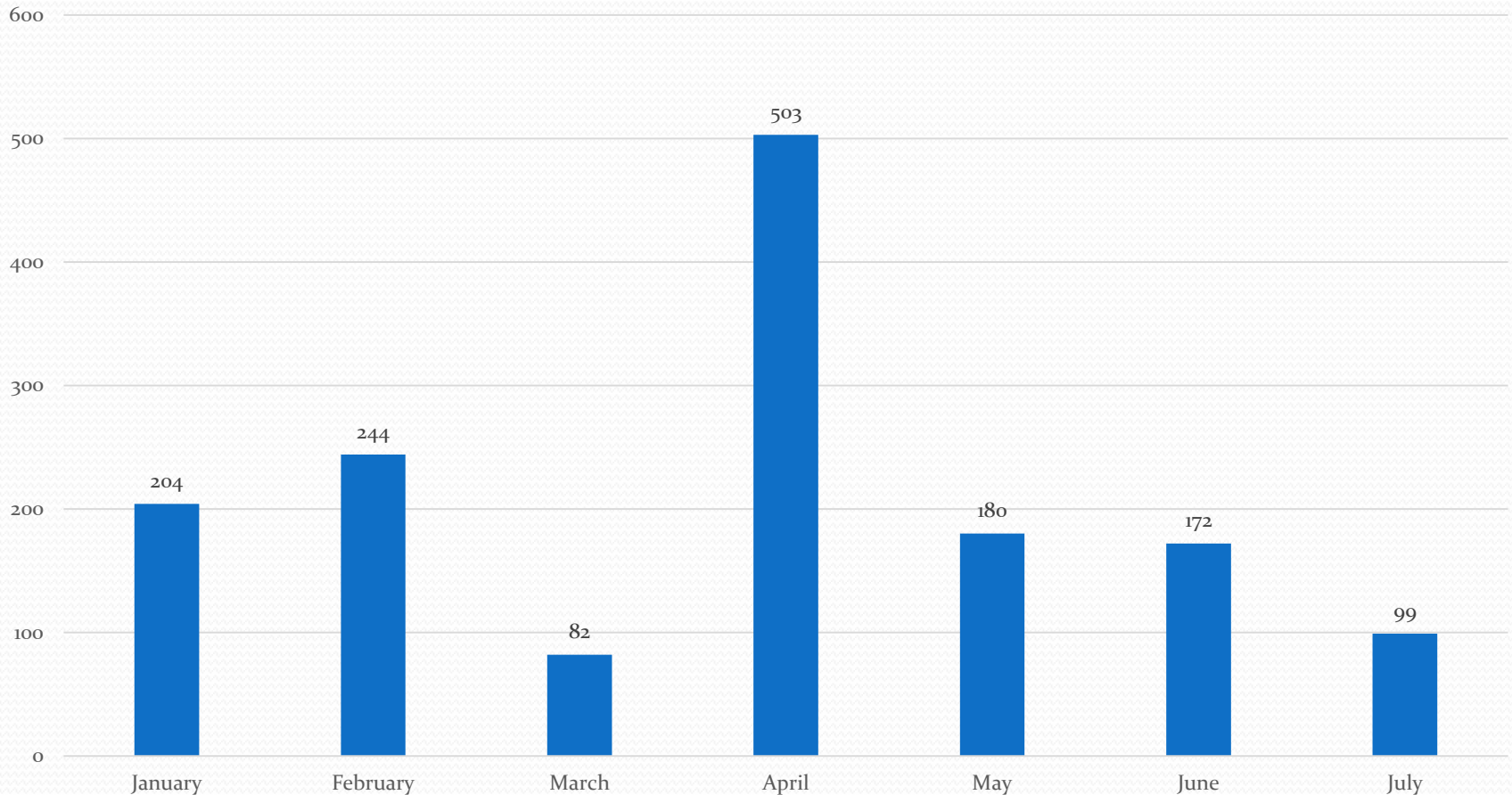


Medical Surveillance 2015

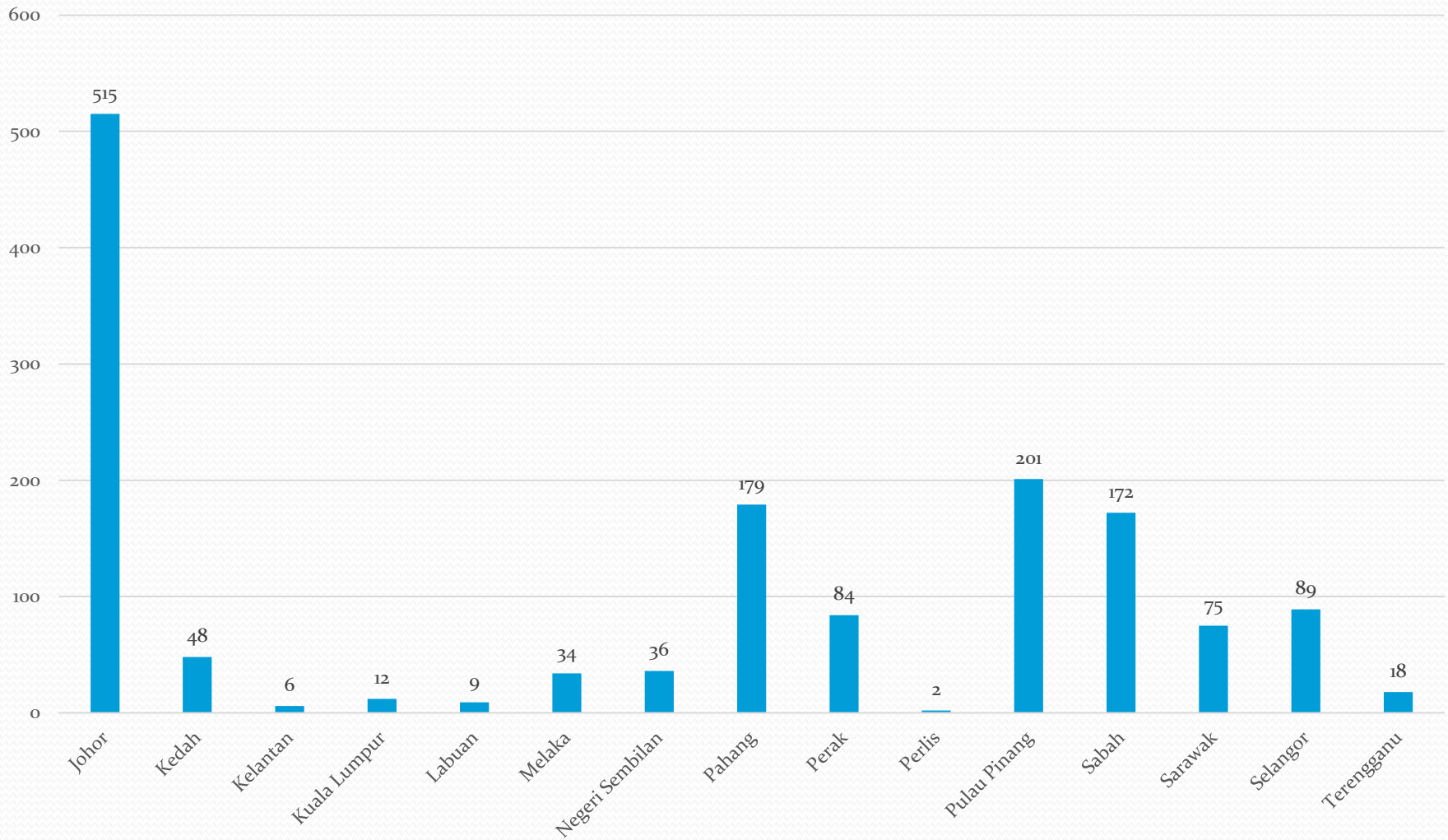
- The amount of Medical Surveillance reports received for the period from January 2015 up to July 2015 thus far totalled to 1484 reports.
- From the reports received, 24,164 workers had underwent medical surveillance and 57 workers were recommended to undergo Medical Removal Protection .
- MRP- 9 workers due to pregnancy
-48 workers due to increased BEI levels

MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE REPORTS RECEIVED BY MONTH

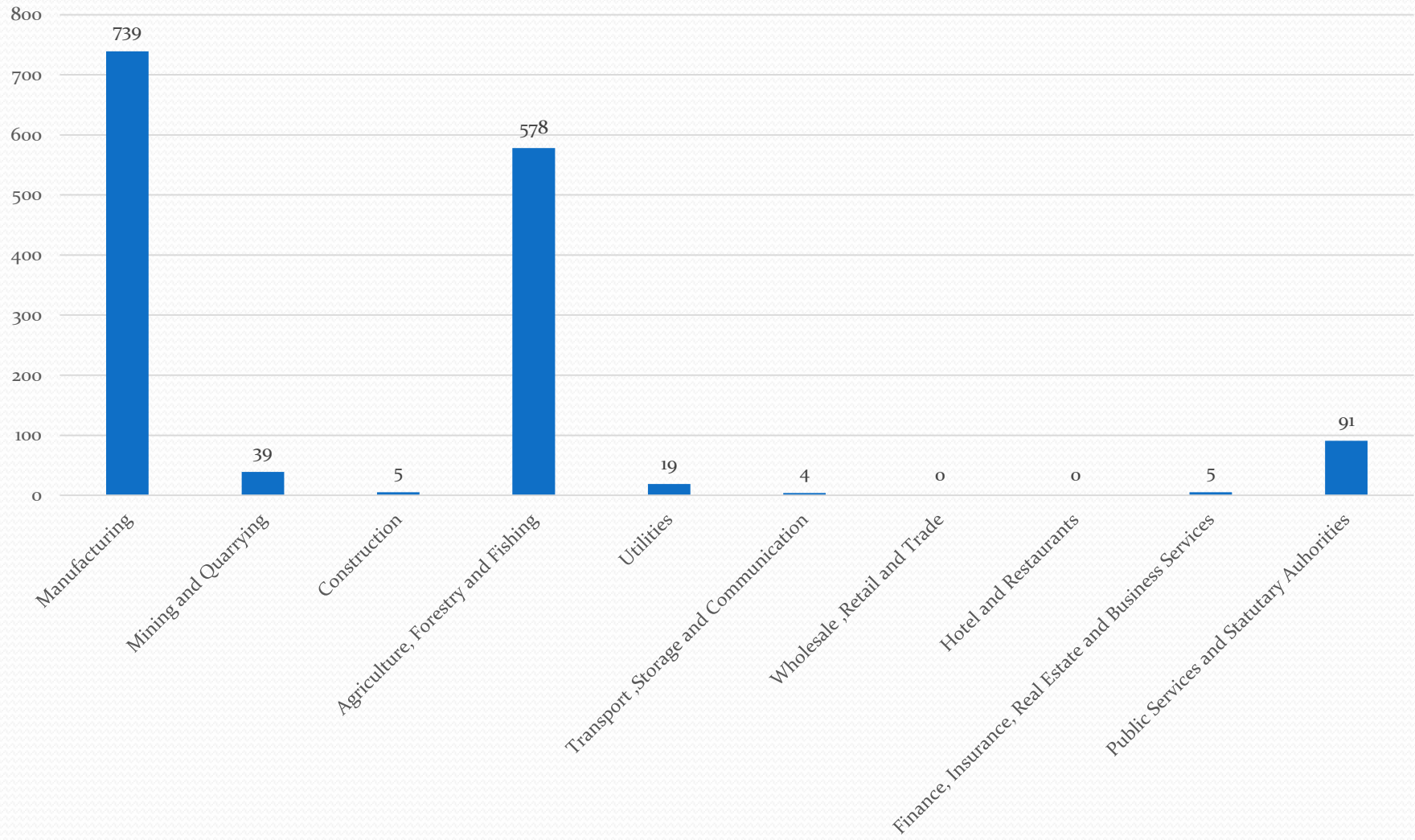
Chart Title



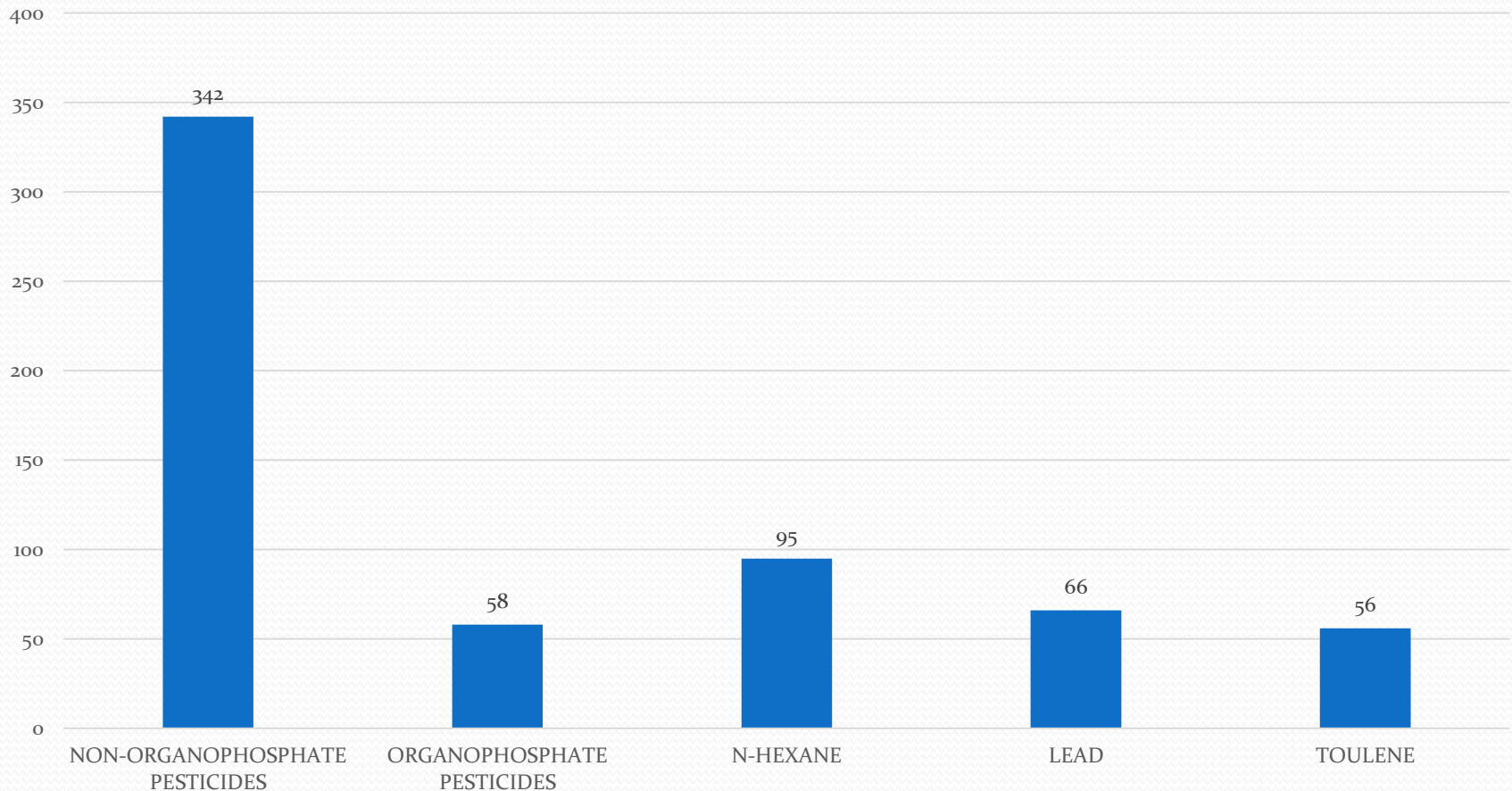
MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE REPORTS RECEIVED BY STATE'S



MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE REPORTS RECEIVED BY INDUSTRY



COMMON CHEMICALS REPORTED



**EVALUATION OF THE
CURRENT PRACTICE IN
CONDUCTING MEDICAL
SURVEILLANCE
PERTAINING TO SELECTED
CHEMICALS**

INTRODUCTION

- In previous years the department had been engaging in multiple dialog sessions with Occupational Health Doctors, Societies associated with Occupational Health in the country and with Competent Persons.
- In 2013, DOSH had engaged UKM Pakarunding to conduct an Evaluation of the Current Practice In Conducting Medical Surveillance Pertaining To Selected Chemicals

Terms Of Reference

- 1) To evaluate the standard procedure for sample handling for the purpose of medical surveillance
- 2) To identify health effects or toxicities due to exposure to hazardous chemicals
- 3) To evaluate the recent and appropriate test methods for the purpose of medical surveillance
- 4) To allow the department to evaluate the medical surveillance reports with more effective and comprehensive manner
- 5) To improve the effectiveness and quality of public services.

Approach Taken

- 1) Review of 25 chemicals
- 2) Medical surveillance data review
- 3) Questionnaire survey among OHD'S(238)
- 4) HRA field- based study
- 5) In-depth interview(12)
- 6) Stakeholders consultation meeting

ISSUES

- Employer
- OHD
- Implementation
- Support Service

Employer Issues

- A lot of workplaces still do not have clear understanding about the usefulness of the medical surveillance and only do medical surveillance after receiving request or instructions from DOSH
- Employers are still not committed to do MS
- Low level of awareness among SHO and employers
- Cost cutting by companies where not all workers were undergo medical surveillance

OHD Issues

- OHD'S need to take an active role in all aspects in promoting and conducting proper MS
- Need to train more OHD'S and to increase their awareness regarding their roles in promoting MS
- Some OHD's themselves are unsure how to conduct proper MS
- Occupational Health Doctors conducting irrelevant investigations

[USECHH.pdf](#)

[USECHH 1.pdf](#)

[USECHH 2.pdf](#)

OHD Issues

- OHD'S not submitting MS summary results to DOSH
 - i. No abnormal results found (45.4%)
 - ii. Format difficult to complete (22.7%)
 - iii. Not aware the need to report MS result (13.3%)
 - iv. Company responsibility to submit (18.1%)

Implementation issues

- Revision of forms format for conclusion of past employment
- Strict enforcement by DOSH
- Not all workers are well covered for MS, only big companies conduct MS- take in by SME still poor
- Existing guidelines on Medical surveillance is outdated- 2001

Support services Issues

- Need for more CHRA to be conducted
- CHRA results questionable
- Need more local lab to provide accredited and cost effective services for BM/BEM

WAY FORWARD

WAY FORWARD

- Reconfiguring USECHH regulations:
 - ☐ Reduction of Schedule 2 chemicals
 - ☐ Removal of the term “Health Surveillance”
 - ☐ Compulsion on conducting Biological Monitoring
 - ☐ Pre-placement medical examination
 - ☐ Issuance of MRP will be more specific
 - ☐ Penalty of non-conformance to the regulations will be applicable to OHD’S

WAY FORWARD

- Re-look into the Medical Surveillance Guidelines
- Improving syllabus and examination at training centres to promote awareness on Medical Surveillance's
- Awareness programme on importance of Medical Surveillance in multimedia

WAY FORWARD

- More training to be conducted for OHD'S
- Allow OHD'S to review CHRA reports and participate in decision making on what MS to be done
- Ensure good quality CHRA report
- To collaborate with Laboratories in reducing cost of Investigations

WAY FORWARD

- Online reporting of Medical Surveillance
- Promotional activities among Small and Medium Sized industries
- Strict enforcement by DOSH

Thank you