

Job Distribution and Turn-Over of Physical Therapists in Taiwan after Enforcement of The Law of National Health Insurance

Meng-Yueh Chien Jau-Yih Tsauo Wen-Sheng Liao Ying-Tai Wu

The purpose of this study was to investigate the distribution, work status and turn-over rate of physical therapists in Taiwan after enforcement of The Law of National Health Insurance. A structured questionnaire was mailed to all the graduates from baccalaureate physical therapy programs who stayed in Taiwan. Five hundred and ninety-one responses (35.3% of the total samples) were used for data analysis. The ratio between male and female was around 5:6, the mean age was 28.6 ± 7.4 years, the average working time was 8860 hours, and 82.7% of the responders were licensed. The majority of monthly salary was in the range of NT30001-50000. About one-sixth (15.9%) and less than one-third (31.6%) of the subjects were unsatisfied with their job

and salary respectively. The results showed that 51.5% of the subjects worked in Northern Taiwan, especially in Taipei area (38.6%), and only 8.0% in eastern Taiwan. Most of the subjects worked as full-time physical therapist. A little more than half (51.4%) of the subjects were working in the teaching-hospital and 34.7% worked in local hospital and medical clinics. About one-third of the responders (36.7%) changed in workplace after The Law of National Health Insurance. The contributing factors included unsatisfied salaries and welfare, lack of promotion opportunities, underranked social class, and inappropriate superior leadership. (JPTA ROC 1998;23(2):117-126)

Key Words: National health insurance, Physical therapist, Job distribution, Turn-over