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Original Article

Analysis for Health Inspection of Ships in Taichung Port, 2011–2018

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Abstract

Taichung Port is an international commercial port located in central Taiwan and frequently busy, thus the public health risks and impacts are relatively high. We analyzed the ship sanitation inspection and ship sanitation certificate issuance in Taichung Port in 2011-2018. We hope to explore the possible public health risk in Taichung Port in recent years and envision the respond and control measures that can be adopted. We found that among vessels with a large number of certificate issuances, the Ship Sanitation Control Certificate rate (abbreviated to SSCC%) was the highest in oil tankers and the second in general cargo ships. However, in recent years, the SSCC% in oil tankers had gradually declined, and the SSCC% of general cargo ships surpassed the oil tankers in 2018. The locations of the vectors were found in kitchen and warehouse, and mainly in kitchen, warehouse and food storage room in oil tankers. However, in addition to the kitchen and warehouse, vectors also appeared in residential areas and medical facilities in general cargo ships. The most common type of vectors found was cockroaches, followed by rats and flies. All rats were found in general cargo ships in 2018. The general cargo ships have become the vessels that mostly need to be noticed and improved. We recommend modifying the regulations and policies and carrying out prevention measures in high-risk ships, in order to comply with the practical needs and protect the health of people.

Keywords: Taichung Port, ship sanitation inspection, ship sanitation certificate

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