

# **Health Status of the Small Scale Mining Impact Area: The Case of Barangay Bato - bato, Narra Palawan**

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## **ABSTRACT**

The study focuses on the health status of Impact Community of Small Scale Mining in Barangay Bato-bato, Narra, Palawan. Quantitative - descriptive survey design and review of records are used to determine the prevalence rate of the common morbidity of the Impact Population. Findings revealed that there was an exponential increase prevalence of cough and colds in the first two years of mining operation. Furthermore, there was an increased attack of hypertension and symptomatic TB in the Barangay Health Record. In 2012, it was recorded in the FHSIS that the Primary Impact Barangay has the highest prevalence of symptomatic TB. The actual survey revealed that eleven out of seventeen diseases reported is attributable to mining activities. Among the alarming emerging ailments are itchiness of the eyes, skin disease and myalgia. The cough and colds, ranked first followed by fever as the common ailments. When the attack rates were compared to the admission and consultation cases in Narra Municipal Hospital, it can be concluded that the exponential increase of respiratory problem was isolated in the Mining Impact Community. There is hidden dimension in the unusual pattern of the diseases that is necessary to be investigated.

**Keywords:** Health status, small-scale mining, Mining Impact Community, Narra