PILOTING OF A SOCIAL MARKETING CAMPAIGN TO REDUCE MUSCULOSKELETAL RISKS RELATED TO MANUAL MATERIALS HANDLING ON CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Methods The Ergonomics Community of Practice, consisting of researchers, industry stakeholders, and insurance industry representatives, has developed a Pilot Ergonomics Social Marketing Program to promote safer Manual Materials Handling (MMH) on construction sites. The work group recognised a need for contractor engagement in planning for safer MMH with an emphasis on: establish weight limits for lifting; and storing materials to reduce MMH risks. Formative work with construction contractors explored how contractors approached planning and three MMH practices. Program materials will be based on formative work results.

Results Data from 81 surveys with construction contractors showed most considered themselves knowledgeable about ergonomic hazards (85%) and knew how to prevent them (79%). Most contractors (57%) reported using planning strategies to prevent MMH risks both before and during project work but others reported little or no planning. Interviews of 12 ‘positive deviant’ contractors identified planning for MMH as a common practice, and produced descriptions of several strategies used to overcome barriers for MMH activities.

Discussion The development of social marketing campaign materials are based on effective MMH strategies that have been adopted by proactive contractors. These materials, including a planning tool, will be tested by intermediary organisations (insurers and construction organisations) with contractors. The social marketing process and preliminary result on the number of contractors who chose to implement the program, the degree the program was implemented, and whether the implementation was sustained during the pilot period will be covered in this presentation.

Nanomaterials

UPDATE OF POTENTIAL HAZARDS OF NANOMATERIALS

Methods We plan a cross-sectional study using a questionnaire on sociodemographic characteristics, risk factors at work and employment conditions, work history, health status, the Nordic Musculoskeletal Questionnaire (NMQ), and disability, as a consequence of work-related MSD, using a supervised face-to-face interview method. The interviews will be performed by trained occupational health and safety specialists from the Public Health Institution of Turkey (PHIT). The study proposal has been approved by the PHIT and the construction company. Workers will be asked for informed consent.

Results We will include about 1,200 Turkish workers in the construction branch in the study. The prevalence of work-related MSD and disability will be determined, stratified for occupational groups and socio-demographic variables. Results are expected in October 2017.

Discussion The main outcome is the estimated prevalence of work-related MSDs in construction workers and associated occupational risk factors in the construction branch of Turkey. We will also analyse the effect of these disorders on the prevalence of disability in work and daily life. Based on the results, interventions for prevention will be recommended.

PREVALENCE OF WORK-RELATED MUSCULOSKELETAL DISEASES AND DISABILITY IN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN ANKARA

Aim of special session This session will address new findings about the potential hazards of nanomaterials.

Presenters: PA Schulte, D Pelclova, H Wolif, E Bergamaschi, D Kehren, D Broffell, Guseva-Canu, I Iavicoli

Nanomaterials

OVERVIEW – UPDATE OF POTENTIAL HAZARDS OF ENGINEERED NANOMATERIALS

Nanomaterials