occupational OP exposure and deficits on behavioural performance tests. We studied pesticide application teams in Egypt who are primarily exposed to one OP, chlorpyrifos (CPF), differing in exposure experience based on their job category.

**Methods** Trailmaking A and B were administered to 54 engineers (who typically watch the applications from beside the field), 59 technicians (who typically guide the applicators in the field), 31 applicators (using knapsack sprayers), and 150 controls (who did not work in the fields) at 2 different times during the OP application season and also immediately and 1.5 months after applications had ended.

**Results** A consistent dose-response relationship was seen in performance speed: Controls had the best performance through most of the application season on Trailmaking A (p<0.04) and B (p<0.001). Applicators had slower performance than engineers (p=0.015) and technicians (p=0.032). On the more complex Trailmaking B test, applicators and technicians had comparable performance that was significantly slower (p=0.003 and p=0.012 respectively) than performance of the engineers. Test performance at 1.5 months after applications ended and in the following year revealed that differences between the groups were persistent, and some differences were significant. 3,5,6-Trichloro-2-pyridinol (TCPy) levels in urine confirmed the pattern of higher to lower exposures across the job categories of the pesticide application teams, and these were all greater than exposures in controls. Increasing TCPy concentrations were significantly correlated with slower Trailmaking B performance at 1.5 months after the exposures had ceased, but not during or immediately after exposures.

**Conclusion** This study identifies a dose-response based on job category and establishes that the OP chlorpyrifos is neurotoxic.
parts of the body would reduce skin contamination, a major route of pesticide exposure.

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1714 OCCUPATIONAL NEUROTOXICOLOGY – RECENT STUDIES
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Aim of the special session International researchers summarise their studies on adverse nervous system effects of occupational exposure to neurotoxic compounds.

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1714a PARKINSONISM PREDICTIVE MODEL IN MN-EXPOSED WORKERS
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Introduction Manganese (Mn) over-exposure in occupational settings is associated with basal ganglia toxicity and a movement disorder characterised by parkinsonism (i.e., the signs and symptoms of Parkinson disease). A simple test to help non-neurologists identify workers with clinical Mn neurotoxicity represents an unmet need.

Methods Using a cohort of 536 Mn-exposed workers, age ≤65 years, from welding worksites, with extensive clinical data, we developed a linear regression model to predict the Unified Parkinson Disease Rating Scale motor subscore part 3 (UPDRS3) score. We primarily considered factors easily obtained in a primary care or occupational medicine clinic, including timed motor task results and selected symptoms/conditions. Secondly we considered other demographic variables and welding exposure. We selected the model based on simplicity for clinical application, biologic plausibility, and statistical significance and magnitude of regression coefficients.

Results The final model contained age, timed motor task scores for each hand, and indicators of action tremor, speech difficulty, anxiety, depression, loneliness, pain and current cigarette smoking. When we examined how well the model identified workers with clinically significant parkinsonism (UPDRS3 ≥15), the receiver operating characteristic area under the curve (AUC) was 0.72 (95% confidence interval [CI] 0.67, 0.77). With a cut point that provided 80% sensitivity, specificity was 52%, the positive predictive value in our cohort was 29%, and the negative predictive value was 92%. Using the same cut point for predicted UPDRS3, the AUC was nearly identical for UPDRS3 ≥10, and was 0.83 (95% CI: 0.76 to 0.90) for UPDRS3 ≥20.

Conclusion Since welding exposure data were not required after including its putative effects, this model may help identify workers with clinically significant Mn neurotoxicity in a variety of settings, as a first step in a tiered occupational screening program.

1714b EVALUATION OF PARKINSONISM AMONG MANGANESE EXPOSED WORKERS
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Introduction Accumulation of manganese in the brain may result in a neurological condition with cognitive, psychiatric, and movement abnormalities. The clinical and toxicological literature demonstrates that manganese accumulates in the basal ganglia which may result in parkinsonism. There is little published about the prevalence of Parkinsonism among manganese exposed workers. We present a case series of 6 workers from a single factory and discuss methods of neurological assessment of the manganese exposed worker for the occupational health provider.

Methods IH sampling of a large tire factory employing 527 production workers was conducted for heavy metals. A walkthrough was performed assessing safety, hygiene, ventilation and use of personal protective equipment. Workers in the departments with manganese concentrations above NIOSH REL completed a symptoms survey and were assessed by occupational medicine physicians, with a specific focus on neurological assessments.

Results Environmental sampling of manganese concentration was above 1 mg/m3 in three departments; highest measurement was 6.7 mg/m3. Walkthrough survey revealed inadequate ventilation in all three departments and improper PPE use among 72% workers. 27 exposed workers were evaluated with symptom questionnaire and clinical exam focusing on neuropsychologic and neuropsychiatric findings; 4 of those workers had evidence of parkinsonism on exam and symptom survey. Those workers were immediately removed from the worksite. Biomarkers were sent for evaluation and the workers were sent for neurological referral.

Conclusion Manganese exposure at work is associated with increased risk of Parkinsonism. We identified a cluster of manganese exposed workers with Parkinsonism in a factory with inadequate ventilation and poor hygiene practice. Based on the findings from this case study we are able to develop a simple neurological assessment tool for the exposed worker.

1714c ASSOCIATION BETWEEN H3K4ME3/BDNF AND THE COGNITIVE FUNCTION OF WORKERS OCCUPATIONALLY EXPOSED TO ALUMINIUM
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