Abstracts

Conclusion Health related absence contributes to significant loss in productive work-time. There is scope to reduce these losses by improvement in health situation. Our study provided key information and trends for planning evidence based health promotion programmes in the industry.

Methods In the early 2000 an expert committee appointed by the IAOM suggested a new syllabus, based on the scientific literature. The recommendations were sent to all experts in OM in Israel, and other professional members like industrial hygienist. We got several responses. Most people suggested additional standards.

Results The curriculum includes 54 months of training programme. The characteristics of the new curriculum are: interaction between theory and practice; fields of knowledge, learning process; competencies which are needed; and multidisciplinarity. We added an obligatory walkthrough list of industries. Three of the walkthrough reports consists a part of the final oral examinations.

Conclusions The aim of the curriculum was to produce a comprehensive approach in OM competencies. The curriculum was adopted by the Israeli Medical Association and Ministry of Health since 2010.

P.2.17 CASE REPORT: THREE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES IN A NAIL TECHNICIAN

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Introduction In cosmetics, acrylic glues are used to apply nail and eyelash extensions. Acrylates are highly irritant materials and may cause local irritation (Contact Dermatitis – CD), respiratory irritation (Asthma) and systemic irritation (Urticaria).

Clinical presentation A 48-year-old female, normally healthy, has been working in the nail beauty field for 11 years. Lately, following an increase of work, she started coughing every morning and feeling shortness of breath which was worsen at the start of work, and improved on vacations. In addition, the patient suffered from skin tenderness in her fingers. An examination of the hands showed a typical picture of CD in left hand fingers 4–5.

Methods and results Specific Patch Tests showed sensitivity to Hydroxethyl Methacrylate and Hydroxypropyl Methacrylate. A methacholine challenge test showed a 22% decrease in FEV1 at 3.94μmol methacholine (i.e. positive test). The patient performed a Peak Expiratory Flow test (PEF). After a week in the nail salon her respiratory and dermatological status worsened greatly, including development of contact urticaria. She was instructed to stop immediately the exposure and start taking p/o steroids. Due to her 3 occupational diseases she was removed from work and latter was recognized as having 3 occupational disease by the Israeli National Insurance which supported her vocational rehabilitation.

Discussion Acrylic glues are hazardous agents which can cause several occupational diseases and require occupational environment monitoring yearly according to Israeli regulations. The TLV-TWA is 2ppm. Small private businesses like the patient’s place don’t perform environmental monitoring or use personal or environmental protective equipment which endanger its workers (usually low social class women) who are not aware of the dangers in this industry. More public attention should be given to the risk in this industry.

P.2.18 THE CURRICULUM IMPLEMENTATION OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE IN ISRAEL

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Background At the early 1990s occupational medicine (OM) was recognized as a specialty in Israel. Fifteen years later after gathering problems and shortcomings of the first curriculum, the Israeli Association of occupational medicine (IAOM) defined the framework for a new curriculum in order to have a modern and better curriculum.

Conclusion A methacholine challenge test showed a 22% decrease in FEV1 at 3.94μmol methacholine (i.e. positive test). The patient performed a Peak Expiratory Flow test (PEF). After a week in the nail salon her respiratory and dermatological status worsened greatly, including development of contact urticaria. She was instructed to stop immediately the exposure and start taking p/o steroids. Due to her 3 occupational diseases she was removed from work and latter was recognized as having 3 occupational disease by the Israeli National Insurance which supported her vocational rehabilitation.

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