

P-414 **MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS OF THE UPPER LIMBS IN A JEANS WASH COMPANY: ABOUT 220 CASES**

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**Introduction** Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) of the upper limbs are the most common occupational pathology in Tunisia with an increasing prevalence in all sectors of activity, in particular in the jeans washing industry.

**Objectives** Identify the risk factors for MSDs in this industry and evaluate the impact of these disorders on professional life.

**Methods** We carried out a cross-sectional descriptive survey of employees in a jeans washing company. This study was based on a questionnaire inspired by two validated questionnaires, the Nordic and from the National Research and Safety Institute, allowing the screening of MSDs.

**Results** The sample consisted of 220 employees with an average age of 36 years, a clear predominance of men and an average professional length of service of 6.2 years. They mainly occupied the post of multi-skilled worker (56.8%). These employees reported a high pace of professional tasks (60.4%), significant muscular strength required (60.9%) and recourse to extreme postures (66.3%). Certain psychosocial factors were reported: precision work (83.2%), requiring great concentration (87.7%), described as monotonous (81.4%) and not very motivating (64.1%). Musculoskeletal disorders, evolving for  $2.3 \pm 1.6$  months on average, were also reported by 71.8% of employees. They complained of pain in the shoulders (39.5%), hands and wrists (11.8%) and elbows (2.7%). These MSDs justified medical treatment in 25.9% of cases and exploration by additional examinations in 18.6% of cases. These disorders had an impact on professional activity with a temporary stoppage of work (6.8%) and professional reclassification (1.4%) with a type of workstation arrangement or transfer to another workstation.

**Conclusion** The jeans wash sector is a source of MSDs of the upper limbs due to excessive exposure to biomechanical and psycho-organizational constraints. This justifies the implementation of an effective preventive strategy based on early detection and ergonomic study of workstations.

P-422 **MENTAL HEALTH AND LIFE SATISFACTION AMONG CANADIAN PARAMEDICS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

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**Introduction** Paramedics have treated many patients suspected of having COVID-19 throughout this pandemic. The uncertainty regarding COVID-19 contagion, effectiveness of infection protection and controls, and the uncontrolled environments in which paramedics work may adversely impact their mental health.

**Objectives** To characterize the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of Canadian paramedics using preliminary data.

**Methods** Self-reported questionnaire data was collected from paramedics across five Canadian provinces as part of the COVID-19 Occupational Risks, Seroprevalence and Immunity among Paramedics (CORSIP) project. Validated screening scores were calculated for major depressive disorder (MDD, PHQ-9 questionnaire) and probable post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD, PC-PTSD-5 questionnaire). Satisfaction with life (SWL) measures were adapted from validated Canadian Census questions and confirmed by reliability analysis. Bivariate relationships of screening scores were analyzed using Wilcoxon signed-ranked, Cliff's *d*, and differences in proportions tests where appropriate.

**Results** Completed questionnaires from 1,906 recruited paramedics were analyzed (95% completion rate). The overall prevalence of MDD was 31.6%. Suicidal ideation (i.e., 'thoughts that you would be better off dead, or of hurting yourself in some way') was reported by 8.3% of paramedics. In addition, 40.2% of paramedics screened positive for probable PTSD, with no significant difference being reported before vs. during the pandemic. Paramedics reported higher median SWL prior to the COVID-19 pandemic (20 vs. 16,  $p < 0.001$ ). There was a large effect size ( $d = 0.52$ ), suggesting a greater probability that paramedics would report higher SWL prior to COVID-19.

**Conclusion** Canadian paramedics appear to be at risk for MDD and PTSD. While the proportion of paramedics with probable PTSD does not appear to have changed during the pandemic, a reduction in SWL was observed. Incorporating follow-up data that will be collected from participants over the next year will be imperative to assess the stability of these findings and evaluate differences by province.

P-428 **LOCAL NARRATIVES ON VULNERABILITIES RELATED TO PESTICIDE EXPOSURE IN THE AGROCITY OF GUICHÓN, PAYSANDÚ, URUGUAY**

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**Introduction** Pesticide exposure involves toxicological and epidemiological events, and the perception of risks as a socially constructed process. Despite the growing and widespread research of exposure among rural workers, very few studies have focused on the risk perception on other population groups, particularly in agrocities contexts. The lack of this kind of investigation in Uruguay has limited monitoring program development that includes social dimensions of pesticides exposure.

**Objectives** To describe and analyze discourses produced by educational, productive, health and social actors in the agrocities of Guichón, Uruguay, regarding health vulnerabilities caused by pesticides exposure.

**Methods** We selected Guichón-city as a paradigmatic case and conducted exploratory interviews among key actors in 2017. The selected population consisted of pesticide applicators, heads of local health services, school principals and members of non-governmental organizations. Sixteen semi-structured interviews were conducted between 2018 and 2020. In addition, regular visits were made to the city where the geographical environment and the relationship with pesticides were