COVID-19 pandemic was high. Given the strong associations with job stress factors (conflict at work, role ambiguity and role conflict, job satisfaction, support at work) and burn-out, the management of burnout should focus on interventional measures implemented at an organizational level.
Carcinogens/Cancer

EXPOSURE TO FIRE SMOKE AND DIESEL EXHAUST AND RISK OF PROSTATE CANCER IN THE NORWEGIAN FIRE DEPARTMENTS COHORT

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Introduction Although no exposures are yet established as causally related to prostate cancer (PCa), the International Agency for Research on Cancer has found limited evidence for increased risk in firefighters. We present PCA incidence data from a Norwegian cohort of firefighters, examining the role of exposure to fire smoke and/or diesel exhaust.

Materials and Methods The Norwegian Fire Departments Cohort (n=4295 males, follow-up 1960–2021) was established between 2017 and 2019. Cancer incidence data was obtained from the Cancer Registry of Norway. To refine exposure metrics, we obtained fire statistics for municipalities covered by the participating fire departments from the Norwegian Directorate for Civil Protection and information on work environment from the participating fire departments, including self-contained breathing apparatus use and number of diesel vehicles. We perform internal comparisons using Poisson regression to study the associations between exposure to fire smoke and diesel exhaust and PCA risk. Norwegian regional ethics committees have approved the studies.

Results During 123,962 person-years of follow-up, 270 PCA cases were diagnosed. Adjusted for age and period of start of employment, preliminary results indicate increased PCA risk associated with longer active service (35+ years vs. <10 years), with attending a higher number of fires (upper vs. lower quartile), and with higher exposure to emissions from diesel vehicles (upper vs. lower quartile). In addition to PCA overall, we will also study aggressive PCA, incorporating prostate-specific antigen (PSA) values, Gleason scores, and clinical stage at diagnosis.

Conclusions Preliminary results indicate higher PCA incidence in firefighters with longer occupational duration, suggesting that occupational exposure to fire smoke and diesel exhaust may represent risk factors for PCA.

Musculoskeletal disorders

EPICONDYLITIS AND MEDICAL FITNESS FOR WORK

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Introduction Epicondylitis represents a quart of the musculoskeletal disorders that can be observed in the workplace. These disorders result in elbow pain which could have an impact on daily and professional activities.

Aims To demonstrate the socio-professional characteristics of patients with epicondylitis

To study the impact of epicondylitis on work ability.

Methods A retrospective descriptive study of patients with epicondylitis who consulted the occupational pathology and fitness for work department for a medical assessment of fitness for work during the period from January 2016 to November 2022.

Results We have collected 14 cases of patients with epicondylitis with an average age of 47±10 years. The predominance of women was 85%. The professional sectors represented were the textile industry (n=4) and health (n=3). They were machine stitchers (n=4), nurses (n=3), cashiers (n=2) and plumbers (n=1). The average professional seniority was 19±6.4 years, and the patients’ occupational history showed that they were working in jobs that exposed them to repetitive elbow extension-flexion movements. The symptoms presented by the patients were elbow pain in all patients and pain on pronon-supination in nine cases. On inspection of the elbow, there was no deformity or local inflammatory signs in all cases. Physical examination revealed pain on counteracting flexion-extension of the wrist in five cases. Epicondylitis was declared as an occupational disease in twelve cases and avoidance of hypersollicitation of the upper limbs was indicated in ten cases.

Conclusion The diagnosis of epicondylitis is essentially clinical. Early detection of people at risk in the workplace is necessary.

Noise

EPIDEMIOLOGICAL AND CLINICAL PARTICULARITIES OF HEARING LOSS IN TELECONSULTANT A STUDY OF 43 CASES

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Introduction The teleconsultant (TC) is the front-line staff who receive or make calls in call centres. Working in a call centre exposes them to various sources of noise, in particular ambient noise and noise from telephone conversations.

Aims To study the epidemiological and clinical particularities of hearing loss in TC

To study the impact of hearing loss on the medical aptitude of patients