

Special Issue

Occupational Diseases: From Cure to Prevention

Message from the Guest Editors

An occupational disease (OD) is any health condition due primarily to exposure to risk factors arising from work activity. In principle, ODs can be prevented by means of control measures at worksites. Data on occupational diseases are essential for employers, social security institutions, occupational safety and health professionals and other stakeholders in relation to the prevention and control of work-related diseases. In this issue, OD are broadly defined as diseases with a specific clinical diagnosis associated with work-related factors.

For clinicians, knowledge of etiology and prevention of ODs is important for optimizing their care for patients. The diagnoses of occupational diseases is complex due to its multifactorial origin and dependent on work-related, personal (age, sex, genetic) and environmental factors. Work-related risk factors can worsen the prognosis and can hamper return to work. Therefore, clinicians should actively ask for these risk factors within their patient populations.

The present Special Issue aims to increase insight in occurrence, risk factors and preventive actions across different types of occupational diseases.

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