

ICOH

Global Occupational Health for the Common Good Session # SS106
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**Mobile Health Units
And
Global Occupational Health**
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Mobile Health Units- Global Occupational Health
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Global Occupational Health for the Common Good



Learning Objectives

Learning Objective 1

- Identify the criteria needed to assist in the development of cost effective Mobile Occupational Medical programs in newly emerging nations.



Learning Objectives

Learning Objective 2

- Understanding of the state of Occupational Medicine in Turkey in 2011 in Governmental and private sectors



Always Learning

Learning Objectives

Learning Objective 3

- Contrast the differences between Mobile Occupational Medical Testing in Canada and Turkey as a basis for developing a practical method of using mobile testing in various parts of the world



WMC Mobile Hearing Truck



WMC Mobile Hearing –Computerized



WMC Mobile Unit Hearing Booths

Why Mobile Health Units?

- Essential and Versatile Instruments
- Documentation of Occupational Disorders in a particular country
- Show trends in space & time.
- Build informational base
- Main goal is to improve worker health and serve as a model to survey and to deliver services to underserved regions



Informational bases

- Determine priorities
- Design interventions
- Monitor Improvement
- Program change
 - -control exposure to hazards in workplace

The Turkish Example



Turkey

- A Eurasian country straddling the southeastern Balkan region of Europe and the Anatolian peninsula in western Asia.
- Turkey's government is a secular democracy that has increasingly integrated with the West while having many relations with the East.
- Associate member of the EU. It is also a founding member of the G20 industrial nations.



Turkey One of its Major Industries -Mining

- Turkish mining history 9,000 years
- copper, gold, iron, lead, mercury, silver, tin, and other metals -mined since ancient times
- Bronze (copper and tin) - first made in Turkey.
- Iron first refined there.
- Copper -island of Cyprus-32 km south of Turkey, the source of copper for many cultures.
- The historic name of Turkey is known as Anatolia, "Anadolu" in Turkish, which means "the mother lode."



Modern Turkish Mining Industry

- Today > 50 different minerals are produced in Turkey
- 2.5% of global production of industrial minerals
- copper, gold, zinc, iron and chromite
- World's major producer of boron, barite, celestite, emery, feldspar, limestone, marble, magnesite, perlite and pumice.
- Major exporter of iron and steel.



Turkish Utilization of International Standards

Convention #161 of the **International Labour Organization** designates occupational health services as services entrusted with essentially preventive functions and responsible for advising the employer, the workers, and their representatives in undertakings on the requirements for establishing and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment which will facilitate optimal physical and mental health in relation to work in the adaptation of work to the capabilities of workers in the light of their state of physical and mental health.

Turkish Utilization of International Standards

- The European union (EU) framework directive 89/391/EEC on the introduction of measures to improve her safety and health of workers is adhered to.
- The Turkish government initiative is to meet all the EU standards in Occupational Health.

Turkish Utilization of International Standards

- In the national legislation of most of the members states of the WHO, a goal has been set that by the year 2015 countries should have greater opportunities for their people to have healthy workplace environments.



ISGUM Turkish Occupational Medicine

- In 2008 the Turkish Ministry of Labour's division called ISGUM (Directorate for Research on Occupational Health and Safety) was charged with developing mobile health units to extend occupational health services to small and medium enterprises, which produce a large part of the national GDP.
- ISGUM, with the financial assistance of the EU and numerous international experts, has developed 6 large mobile health units to conduct surveys and surveillance.
- Screened over 2000 employees in various rural and other underserved areas of the country.
- Network of 6 regional support facilities, trained audiologists, laboratory technicians, ECG and x-ray technicians, and support staff for these mobile units. Among other things, their main goal is to improve worker health and serve as a model to survey and to deliver services to underserved regions.



Mobile Units

- Mobile units in developed countries such as Canada have been developed mostly in response to employer demand for specialized & rapid screening services.
- Mobile units are a versatile mechanism for introducing flexibility and responsiveness to national occupational health systems.



ISGUM-Turkish Occupational Medicine

- mobile health unit purpose:
 1. To conduct surveys to determine the frequency of occupational health problems and disability related to them in Turkey
 - permitting their analysis by location, trends over time, industry sector, occupations and workplaces at risk, and vulnerable working populations.



ISGUM-Turkish Occupational Medicine

- mobile health unit purpose:
 2. To conduct periodic health surveillance on workers at specific locations and with participating employer, in order to determine the effectiveness of hazard control measures in reducing the frequency and severity of occupational health problems.



ISGUM-Turkish Occupational Medicine

- mobile health unit purpose:
 3. To identify workers who are developing or have developed occupational health problems so that the problems can be managed before they get worse and disability can be prevented.



ISGUM-Turkish Occupational Medicine

- mobile health unit purpose:
4. To provide information on patterns of occupational health problems that suggest the need for special, targeted interventions to reduce risk in specific locations, employers, and occupations.



ISGUM-Turkish Occupational Medicine

- mobile health unit purpose:
5. To educate workers and employers on occupational health and the need to control hazards



Program Successes

- Mobile Health Units go to the production or work place upon the request of employers
- Provide protective and preventative health services in the field of health at work.
- With Mobile Health at Work Units, employers conducted periodic health testing
- Allowed compliance with laws & facilitated losing manpower



Goals Achieved

- Mobile Health Units draw attention to Occupational Health
- Facilitate educational programs
 - Employees
 - Employers
- Develop country wide protocols
- Achieve National Standards
- Provide cost effective services



Thank You