

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH IN THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

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Occupational Safety and Health in the Republic of Macedonia

Elisaveta Stikova

Present position



- 1991-Present, Professor, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Medical Faculty, Skopje, Macedonia (courses: Occupational Health, Public Health, Medical Ecology, Hygiene)
- 1994 – Present, Director and Advisor, National Public Health Institute, Skopje, Macedonia
- 2009 – Fulbright Visiting Scholar, Pittsburg University, Graduate School of Public Health – New Educational Pathway for Global Public Health Security

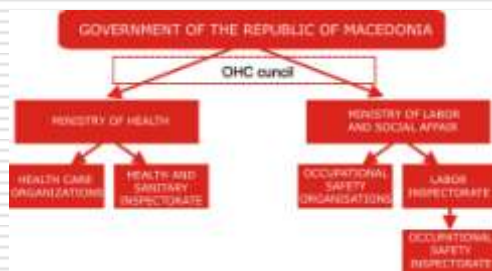
Project activities (1)

- The Occupational Health & Safety NETWORKING in EASTern Europe -EuropeAid/128287/C/ACT/MULTI
- CEEPUS Academic Programme - Image Processing, Information Engineering & Interdisciplinary Knowledge Exchange
- 2008 – NATO - Advanced Study Institute: "Preparing the Regional Leaders with Knowledge, Training and Instruments for Information Shearing and Decision-Making Against Biological Threats and Pandemics"
- 2007 - Visiting Professor, Erasmus Mundus-Europubhealth Master Studies, University of Sheffield, Sheffield, UK and Krakow, Poland; Courses taught: Environmental disasters

Project activities (2)

- 2006 - NATO Advanced Study Institute, Partner Country Co-director: "Strengthening Public Health Preparedness for Chemical, Biological and Radiological Agents Threats"
- Swiss National Science Foundation - SCOPES Project "Development of Core Curriculum in Occupational Health"
- Public Health Expert, UNDP Project, Development and Mainstreaming of the National Plan on SAICM Implementation for the Republic of Macedonia.
- Task Group Leader of WG for Health Impact Assessment of Climate Change: UNDP Sustainable Human Development Project: "Enabling the F.Y.R. Macedonia to Prepare its First National Communication in Response to its Commitments to the UNFCCC-Health Section"

Occupational Safety and Health in the Republic of Macedonia



OSH Stakeholders and Partners

- Ministry of Health
- State Health and Sanitary Inspectorate
- Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs
- OSH and Labor Inspectorate
- Financial and insurance institution - Fund for Health Insurance and Fund for Pension and Invalidity Insurance
- Institute of Public Health
- Institute of Occupational Health
- Directorate for Radiation Safety
- Occupational Safety Services
- Macedonian Association of Industrial Hygiene
- Macedonian Society of Occupational Health
- Macedonian Association for Safety at Work
- Employers' and workers organization

Strengths and Weaknesses

- Occupational Safety and Health Council
- OSH Law (Official Gazette of RM 92/07)
- Rulebook for Workplace Risk Assessment (Official Gazette of RM 2/09)
- Rulebooks for different hazards (noise, vibration, monitors, PPE, evidence, ionizing radiation, chemicals, occ. diseases)
- Additional compulsory insurance for injuries at work and occupational diseases

Strengths and Weaknesses

- There is NO OSH Strategy and Programs
- There is NO accepted concept for BOSH services
- There is NO integrated OSH information system and evidence-based indicators
- There is no regulation for occupational medicine services
- There is NO Risk Insurance Fund
- There is NO new Law for health Care and rulebook for min. requirements for occ. medicine services

OSH related sectors in the Ministry of Health



Competencies of Ministry of Health

- Registration of occupational medicine units/organizations
- Set up of minimum criteria for registration of occupational medicine services
- Inspection of fulfillment of proposed condition in occ. medicine
- Authorization of occupational medicine services in regard with OSH Law
- OSH preventive activities covered by Annual Preventive Program

OSH related departments in the Institute of Public Health (IPH)



OSH activities and responsibilities of Institute of Public Health

- National system on records in healthcare and health statistics including:
 - Register for work-related injuries
 - Register for occupational diseases
- The only one institution in the country with legal responsibilities and capacities for hazard identification, exposure assessment and medical surveillance in case of:
 - Ionizing radiation
 - Biological hazards
 - Biomonitoring of heavy metals, pesticides, POPs, solvents

Medical records and statistics in OSH - competencies of Institute of Public Health

- OSH records and statistics in IPH exists more than 50 years
- The new Law on records in the field of healthcare was adopted last year (Official gazette 20/2009)
 - Art. 8 - Individual reports for occupational diseases (point 15)
 - Art. 8 - Individual report for work-related injuries (point 25)
 - Art.9 - monitoring and control of preventive activities in occupational medicine services (point 23)
 - Article 11 - Register for occupational diseases (point 15)
 - Article 11 - Register for work-related injuries (point 25)
- Integrated electronic system for collecting the records and statistics and e-card (pilot phase in progress)
 - ESAW and EODS methodology
 - Personal protection of workers' data
- IPH is fully equipped (software, hardware and server/s)

Occupational Medicine and Workplace Risk Assessment Department in Public Health Institute

- Medical Surveillance of workers occupationally exposed to ionizing radiation
 - 1200 registered workers
- Medical surveillance of workers from food sector
 - Integrated approach: HACCP, Workplace risk assessment, sanitary check-up (microbiological contamination of premises and staff), food safety
- Medical surveillance of health care workers
 - integrated approach: sanitary check-up (microbiological contamination of premises and staff), workplace risk assessment

Department for Radiological Protection in Public Health Institute

- Law for Radiological Protection and rulebooks for workplace monitoring and medical surveillance (Official Gazette 28/2010)
- Workplace monitoring and control of ionizing radiation of the sources in:
 - 196 organizations
- Personal TLD dosimetry
 - 1200 occupationally exposed workers

Other OSH related competencies of Institute for Public Health

- IHR (2005) Contact point
 - Notification and reporting of all events including technological disasters
 - Chemical incidents,
- REACH implementation
- Climate change alert system with focus on workers
- Workplace health promotion (pandemic flu, heat ways...)
- Training – workplace risk assessment: Winter School, First National Advanced Workshop in cooperation with SLI...
 - <http://www.studiorum.org.mk/winterschool/>
 - <http://studiorum.org.mk/en/?p=44>

Organizational Chart of Institute of Occupational Medicine



Scope of competencies of IOM

- Provide health related, methodological, educational and scientific activities through:
 - establishing criteria and methodology of work,
 - proposing and fulfilling preventive and scientific programs,
 - initiating and creating legislative acts and standards in the field of health and working environment in these area
 - Medical surveillance
 - Diagnosis and treatment for allergic diseases

OSH State Inspectorate



Occupational Medicine Services in the Republic of Macedonia

Primary health care

- 49 occupational medicine teams (units/GP) in 18 municipalities;

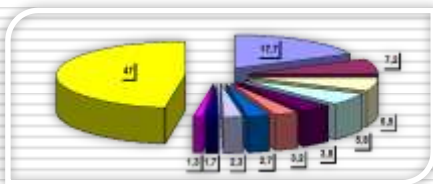
Secondary health care

- 29 occupational medicine teams in 6 municipalities

Tertiary health care

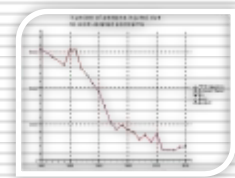
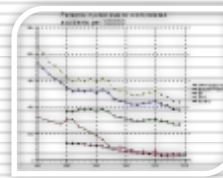
- 9 occupational medicine teams in IOH and PHI as a part of occupational health teams

Structure of morbidity registered in occupational medicine services in 2008



- 110247 outpatient visits
- HTA – 17.7% ; morbidity rate 62,2/10000
- Respiratory diseases – 7,2% ; morbidity rate 25,4/10000

Work related incidents in the RM

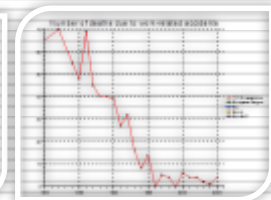
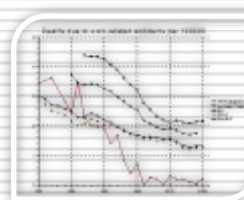


Work related incidents by sectors in 2008

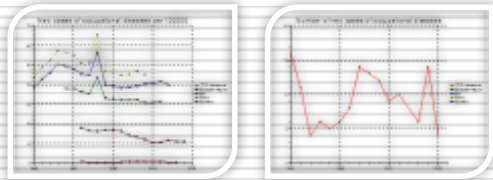
	Number of accidents	Rate per 1000 employee
Industry and mining	580	35.62
Construction	96	3.78
Mining Only	6	1.77
Agriculture, fishing, forestry	45	3.5
Transport	58	2.11
Trade	19	0.25
Health Care and social Work	93	2.83
Manufacturing of textile	28	0.69
Total number of injured persons in all sectors	1041	2.4

*The signing of Memorandum of understandings for regular exchange of information with SLI in progress

Deaths due to work related accidents in the RM



Occupational diseases in the Republic of Macedonia



	2005	2006	2007	2008
Reported occupational diseases	8	4	14	23
Occupational diseases/ 1000	0,01	0,03	0,04	0,05

Education and Training

- Graduate medical education (compulsory course – Occupational medicine – 45 hours)
- Specialization in Occupational medicine (4 years)
- Public health master study (1 compulsory course + 2 elective courses)
- CME – occ. medicine specialists
- There is NO occupational safety education
- There is NO occupational hygiene education

New challenges for Healthy Workplaces in RM

- Macedonian Association of Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Health



Occupational Health Priorities in the RM

- Development of national strategies, programs and action plans for OSH
- Developing/updating national legislation on OSH; harmonization and ratification of international OS&H standards
- Raising awareness of OSH and improving access to information
- Better development of social partners capabilities regarding OSH and social partnership
- Established and functioning tripartite structures on OSH
- Development of training programs on OSH for trainers and social partners