



SOBEST
SOCIÉTÉ BÉNINOISE
DE SANTÉ AU TRAVAIL

INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONGRESS



1-4 DECEMBER 2025

Main theme

Prevention and
management of
occupational risks in
africa : challenges and
perspectives

SUB - THEMES

- ➔ Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
- ➔ Approaches and preventions strategies for occupational risks
- ➔ Economic impacts of occupational risks
- ➔ Working conditions , and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
- ➔ Occupational Dermathological , ENT , and Musculoskeletal disorders
- ➔ Workplace stress and other mental health disorders



**SCIENTIFIC
PROGRAM AND
BOOK OF
ABSTRACTS**

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Preface

Prevention of occupational risks is a crucial issue for the economic and social development of African countries. In Benin, as in many other countries on the continent, workers are often faced with challenging and potentially hazardous working conditions. Workplace accidents and occupational illnesses are common, resulting in significant human and economic losses.

Despite the efforts made, many challenges remain to be addressed. Poor enforcement of safety standards, a lack of training and awareness-raising for workers, and insufficient resource allocation for occupational health and safety all exacerbate occupational risks.

This book, 'Occupational Risk Prevention in Benin and in Africa: Challenges and Prospects', is timely in shedding light on these issues. It presents an in-depth analysis of the specific challenges encountered in Benin and proposes innovative solutions to improve occupational risk prevention.

The authors of this book, who come from various backgrounds and are specialists in their field, have succeeded in producing a reference document that will be useful for occupational health and safety professionals, policy makers, employers and workers themselves.

I hope that this book will serve as a basis for reflection and concrete action to improve working conditions and reduce occupational risks. Now is the time to move from words to actions to ensure a safe and healthy working environment for all.

Dr HINSON Antoine Vikkey

Full Professor of Occupational Medicine

Chair of the Executive Board of SOBEST

Chair of the Organising Committee

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF SOBEST



HINSON Antoine Vikkey
Chair



GOUGNIMENOU Camille
Vice-Chair



ADJOBIMEY Mênouli
General Secretary



LAWIN Hervé
Deputy General Secretary



AMI-TOURE Raïssatou
General Treasurer



TOLLO Brice
Deputy General Treasurer



MIKPONHOUE Rose
Head of Organisation

**SOBEST
INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS ORGANISING
COMMITTEE**

As part of the organisation of the International Congress of the Benin Society for Occupational Health (SOBEST) scheduled for 1–4 December 2025, various committees have been put in place. They are composed as follows:

I. CONGRESS ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Chairs: Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON*, MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE*

1st Vice-Chair: Dr Camille GOUGNIMENOU*

2nd Vice-Chair: Dr Hervé LAWIN*

General Secretary: MCA Mênouli ADJOBIMEY*,

Members: Dr Raïssatou AMI-TOURE*, Dr Brice TOLLO, Dr Amélé ADJOGOU, Dr Rodrigue, SONOUKON, Dr Serge YOBO*, Dr Kowiyou MALIKI*, Dr Serge F. HAZOUME*, Dr Ayodélé ADJADI BAKARI, Dr Lucile BEDIE, Dr Noriace ZOHOUN

International Advisers : Prof Mathias KUASSI, Dr Joseph KAPTSUE, Dr Joseph DIEUBOUÉ, MCA Sandrine LOMPO

II. INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS

Chair: Prof Jean-Sylvain BONNY (RCI)

Secretariat: Prof Paul AYELO (Bénin), Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON (Bénin), Prof Fabien GOUNONGBE (Bénin), Dr Hervé LAWIN (Bénin)

Members: Prof Mor NDIAYE-Dakar (Sénégal), Prof Barthelemy WOGNIN(RCI), Prof Mathias KOUASSI (RCI), Prof Janvier GASANA (USA), Prof Badirou AGUEMON (Bénin), Prof Christian JOHNSON (Bénin), Prof Ghislain SOPOH (Bénin), Prof Jérôme SOSSA (Bénin), MCA François Aimé TCHICAYA (RCI), MCA Sandrine SANON (Burkina-Faso), MCA Jules OWONA (Cameroun), MCA Géraud PADONOU (Bénin), MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE(Bénin), MCA Colette AZANDJEME (Bénin), MCA Ariel AKA (RCI), MCA Mênouli ADJOBIMEY (Bénin), MCA Armandine DIATTA (Sénégal), MCA Ibrahim MAMA CISSE (Bénin), MCA DAMIEN Georgia (Bénin), Dr Rousseau DJOUAKA (Cameroun, IITA Bénin), Dr Hervé LAWIN (PhD Santé publique-Bénin) Dr Lucile BEDIE (Bénin), Prof Cléophas KALUMBA (RDC), Dr Joseph DIEUBOUÉ(BIT-Dakar), Dr Joseph KAPTUE (Cameroun)

III. LOCAL SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF THE CONGRESS

Chair: Prof Paul AYELO

Members:

- Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON
- Prof Fabien GOUNONGBE
- MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE
- MCA Mênouli ADJOBIMEY
- MCA Ibrahim MAMA CISSE
- Dr Hervé LAWIN

IV. TREASURY AND RESOURCE MOBILISATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Raïssatou AMI-TOURE

Vice-Chair: Dr Kowiyou MALIKI

Members:

- Dr Serge YOBO
- Dr Serge F. HAZOUME
- Dr Kowiyou MALIKI
- Dr Rafiou BAGUIDI
- Dr Hervé LAWIN
- Dr Rodrigue SONOUKON
- Dr Derdone GNONLONFOUN
- Dr Ayodélé ADJADI BAKARI
- Dr Manix CODJIA
- Dr Brice TOLLO
- Dr Loréno KEDOTE ZANCLAN
- Dr Jean-Claude SOGLO

V. TRANSPORT, WELCOMING AND ACCOMMODATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Kowiyou MALIKI

Members:

- Dr Serge F. HAZOUME
- Dr Sophie CHODATON
- Dr Anabelle AHOSSI
- Dr Sandrine YOVO
- Dr Jolianne DASSI

VI. REGISTRATION AND PARTICIPANT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE

Vice-Chair: Dr Hervé LAWIN

Members:

- Dr Yacoubou IMOROU KARIMOU
- Dr Serge F. HAZOUME
- Dr Cyriaque DOCHAMOU
- Dr Nasser KOUNOUHEHOUA
- Dr Wilfried ZANNOU
- Dr Clémencia ADJOVI
- Dr Octave HOUANNOU
- Dr Mari-Axelle DOSSOU-TOGBE

VII. CATERING COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Ayodélé ADJADI BAKARI

1st Vice- Chair: Dr Marie-Axelle DOSSOU TOGBE

2nd Vice-Chair: Mrs Yolande AHOSSI

Members:

- Dr Lucile BEDIE
- Dr Prisque BAH
- Dr Raïssatou AMI TOURE
- Dr Marcelle-Olive SOUNLIN
- Dr Abibata TABE

VIII. SECRETARIAT COMMITTEE

Chair: MCA Mènonli ADJOBIMEY

1st Vice-Chair: Dr Hervé LAWIN

2nd Vice-Chair: Mme Yolande AHOSSI

Members:

- MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE
- Dr Amélie ADJOGOU
- Dr Ayodélé ADJADI BAKARI
- Dr Noriace ZOHOUN

IX. HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chair: MCA Ibrahim MAMA CISSE

Members:

- Dr Serge YOBO
- Dr Kowiyou MALIKI
- Dr Serge F. HAZOUME
- Dr Corneille HOUANGNI
- Dr Fintan GBAGUIDI
- Dr Fidel DOSSOU

X. COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Hervé LAWIN

Vice-Chair: MCA Mènonli ADJOBIMEY

Members:

- Dr Yacoubou IMOROU KARIMOU
- Dr Camille GOUGNIMENOU
- Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON
- Dr Fidel DOSSOU

XI. TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr Camille GOUGNIMENOU

Members:

- Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON
- Dr Serge F. HAZOUME

XII. ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE COMMITTEE

Chair: Prof Fabien GOUNONGBE

Members:

- Dr Laureno KEDOTE ZANKLAN
- Dr Dorine DANMITONDE
- Dr Vivienne BOKO
- Dr Brice TOLLO

XIII. PRE-CONGRESS COMMITTEE

Chair: MCA Ménonli ADJOBIMEY

Members:

- Dr Serge YOBO
- Dr Kowiyou MALIKI
- Prof Antoine Vikkey HINSON
- MCA Rose MIKPONHOUE
- Dr Hervé LAWIN

A FEW PICTURES FROM THE CONGRESS





PRECONGRESS:

- Dates: 24-28 November 2025
- Venue: National University Hospital Centre of Pneumo-Phthisiology of Cotonou
- Activity: First International Course on Epidemiology and Assessment of Occupational and Environmental Risks (EERPE)

CONFERENCES

- One opening keynote speech, and 21 plenary sessions
- Salle Bleue, Palais des Congrès
- Date: every day of the Congress

WORKSHOPS / PANELS / SYMPOSIUMS

	WORKSHOPS		PANELS		SYMPOSIUMS
	Life-threatening emergencies	Back hygiene	No.1	No.2	SOPAST
Dates	2 Dec. 2025	3 Dec 2025	1 Dec. 2025	1 Dec. 2025	3 Dec. 2025
Rooms	Laguna 2	Laguna 2	Salle Bleue	Salle Bleue	Salle Bleue
Time	9H00 - 15H00	9H00 - 12H00	12H00-12H30	12H30-13H15	11H15-12H45
Mode	10 participants / hour	10 participants / hour	all participants	All participants	All participants
Access procedures	Registration required: Fee applies	Registration required: Fee applies	Free access	Free access	Free access

COMMUNICATIONS

- 63 oral presentations and 22 poster presentations
- Parallel sessions in the morning and in the afternoon



GENERAL PROGRAMME





PRE-CONGRESS PROGRAM



24 - 28 NOVEMBER 2025

**SCHEDULE FOR MONDAY
24 NOVEMBER 2025**

Morning session (8:00 - 13:00) Issues and policies	
8:00 - 8:30	Arrival of participants
8:30 - 9:00	Arrival and installation of officials
9:00 - 10:00	Opening Ceremony
10:00 - 10:30	COFFEE BREAK
10:30 - 11:00	Occupational health challenges in Africa <i>Prof BONNY Jean Sylvain, (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i>
11:00 - 11:30	Occupational health policy in Africa <i>Prof BONNY Jean Sylvain, (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i>
11:30 - 12:00	Environmental health challenges in Africa <i>Prof JOHNSON Roch, (Abomey-Calavi, Benin)</i>
12:00 - 12:30	Environmental health policy in Africa <i>Prof JOHNSON Roch, (Abomey-Calavi, Benin)</i>
12:30 - 13:00	General debate
Afternoon session (14:00 to 17:30): Advanced concepts in applied epidemiology	
14:00 - 14:45	Descriptive epidemiology <i>MCA DAMIEN Georgia (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
14:45 - 15:30	Analytical epidemiology <i>MCA DAMIEN Georgia (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
15:30 - 16:00	COFFEE BREAK
16:00 - 16:45	Evaluative epidemiology <i>Prof CAMBRON-GOULET Évelyne (Montréal, Canada)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
16:45 - 17:30	General debate

**SCHEDULE FOR TUESDAY
24 NOVEMBER 2025:
OCCUPATIONAL RISKS**

Morning session (9:00 to 12:30)	
9:00 - 9:45	Physical risks (hazard, exposure, assessment, traceability, management, consequences) <i>Prof WOGNIN Barthélémy (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i>
9:45 - 10:30	Chemical risks (hazard, exposure, assessment, traceability, management, consequences) <i>Prof KOUASSI Mathias (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00 - 11:45	Biological risks (hazard, exposure, assessment, traceability, management, consequences) <i>Prof CAMBRON-GOULET Éveline (Montréal, Canada)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
11:45 - 12:30	General debate
Afternoon session (14:00 to 17:30)	
14:00 - 15:00	Psychosocial risks <i>Prof LECOURS Alexandra (Montréal Canada)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
15:00 - 16:00	Workstation study <i>Prof KOUASSI Mathias (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i> <i>MCA LOMPO Sandrine (Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso)</i>
16:00 - 16:30	COFFEE BREAK
16:30 - 17:30	Integrated risk management (severity/probability matrices, prioritisation) <i>Prof CAMBRON-GOULET Éveline (Montréal, Canada)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>

**SCHEDULE FOR
WEDNESDAY
26 NOVEMBER 2025:
ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS**

Morning session (9:00 to 12:30)	
9:00 - 9:45	Special features of occupational and environmental epidemiology <i>Prof GASANA Janvier (USA)</i>
9:45 - 10:30	Assessment of environmental exposure <i>Prof GASANA Janvier (USA)</i>
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
11:00 - 11:45	Indoor environmental exposures and prevalence of allergic conditions <i>Prof GASANA Janvier (USA)</i>
11:45 - 12:30	Case study: air pollution and cardiovascular risks <i>Prof GASANA Janvier (USA)</i>
12:30 - 13:00	General debate
Afternoon session (14:00 to 17:30)	
14:00 - 16:00	Exposome approach: principles and applications in occupational and environmental health (online) <i>Prof NOLWENN Noisel (Montréal, Canada)</i> <i>MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli (Cotonou, Benin)</i>
16:00 - 16:30	COFFEE BREAK
16:30 - 17:30	Case study: Exposure to pesticides <i>ZINFLOU Corinne (Montréal, Canada)</i>

**SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY
27 NOVEMBER 2025:
ANALYTICAL
METHODOLOGIES AND
DECISIONS-MAKING**

Morning session (9:00 – 12:30)

9h00-9h45	Data management in the workplace <i>MCA LOMPO Sandrine (Ouagadougou, Burkina-Faso)</i>
9h45-10h30	Workshop: Analysis of an epidemiological dataset <i>MCA BIRAMA Apho LY (Bamako, Mali), ADJOBIMEY Mênonli (Cotonou- Benin)</i>
10h30-11h00	COFFEE BREAK
11h00-12h30	Principles of research methodology <i>Prof HOUINATO Dismand, ADJOBIMEY Mênonli (Cotonou- Benin)</i>

Afternoon session (14:00 to 18:00)

14h00-15h30	Workshop: Technique for developing occupational risk mapping: Single document <i>Prof HINSON Antoine Vikkey (Cotonou- Benin)</i>
15h30-16h00	COFFEE BREAK
16h00-17h30	Workshop: Technique for developing occupational risk mapping: Single document <i>Prof HINSON Antoine Vikkey (Cotonou- Benin)</i>
Dinner 19:00 – 22:00	Lecturers and participants (Bénin Royal Hôtel)

**SCHEDULE FOR FRIDAY
28 NOVEMBER 2025:
PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS
AND FUTURE PROSPECTS**

Morning session (9:00 – 12:30)

9:00 – 10:30	Occupational risks in the agro-industry <i>Prof WOGNIN Barthélémy (Cocody-Côte d'Ivoire)</i> Critical reading of articles: agro-industry sector <i>Prof WOGNIN, Pr LOMPO, MIKPONHOUE, BIRAMA, DAMIEN, ADJOBIMEY</i>
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10:30 – 11:00	COFFEE BREAK
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11:30 – 12:30	Group work/fieldwork: preparation of job study presentations <i>Prof WOGNIN, KOUASSI, HINSON, LOMPO, MIKPONHOUE, ADJOBIMEY</i>
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Afternoon session (14:00 - 17:30)

14:00 – 15:30	Presentation of group work to the training panel
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15:30 – 16:00	COFFEE BREAK
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16:00 – 17:00	Course evaluation, Communication
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17:00 – 17:30	Closing (SOBEST, CNSS, SOPAST, INSPQ, INSPIRE)
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CONGRESS PROGRAMME



1-4 DECEMBER 2025

*Note : All plenary sessions will take place in la
salle bleue, Palais des Congrès , Cotonou*

1 - 4 December 2025				
	1/12/2025	2 /12/2025	3 /12/2025	4 /12/2025
8:00 - 8:30	Welcoming and installation of participants	Welcoming and installation of participants	Welcoming and installation of participants	
8:00 - 9:00			Plenary Sessions	Plenary
9:00 - 9:30			No.7,8,9,10	Sessions No.
9:30 - 10:00				19,20,21
10:00 - 10:30	Opening Presentation	Plenary Sessions No.2, 3, 4	Workshop 2	
		Workshop 1		
10:30 - 11:00		Coffee Break - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS		GENERAL REPORT
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee Break		Symposium	Closing Ceremony
11:30 - 12:00	Panels 1, 2	Workshop 1	SOPAST	
12:00 - 12:30	Plenary Session No.1			
12:30 - 13:00		Presentations	Workshop 2	
13:00 - 14:30	Lunch Break – VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS			
14:30 - 15:00	Opening Ceremony and Welcome Cocktail	Plenary Sessions No.5,6	Plenary Sessions	
15:00 - 15:30			No.11,12,13 Presentations	
15:30 - 16:00		Pause santé - VISITE DES STANDS		
16:00 - 17:30		Presentations	Plenary Sessions No.14,15,16,17,18 Presentations	
19:30 - 23:00			Gala dinner	



DAY ONE
MONDAY 1ST
DECEMBER 2025



Salle Bleue	
Time	Activities
8:00 - 10:00	Welcoming and installation of participants
10:00 - 11:00	Opening Presentation: Prevention and management of occupational risks in Africa: Challenges and prospects Speaker: <i>Prof BONNY Jean Sylvain</i> Facilitators: Prof OUENDO Edgard, Prof AYELO Paul Secretary : MCA AKA Irel
11:00 - 11:30	COFFEE BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS
11:30 - 12:00	PANEL No.1 THEME: Contribution of international institutions and sub-regional organisations (ILO, IAPRP and SOPAST) to the central theme Speakers: - <i>Prof YEBOUE Yves (SG IAPRP)</i> - <i>Dr DIEUBOUÉ Joseph (BIT Dakar)</i> - <i>Dr KAPTUE Joseph (SG SOPAST)</i> Facilitators: Prof BONNY Jean Sylvain MCA LOMPO Sandrine Secretary : MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênonli
12:00 - 12:45	PANEL No.2 THEME: Contribution of ministries in charge of labour and of social partners to the central theme Speakers: - <i>MTFP</i> - <i>CNP</i> - <i>CIPB</i> - <i>Trade Union Centres</i> Facilitators: Dr DIEUBOUÉ Joseph (BIT Dakar) MCA MAMA-CISSE Ibrahim Secretary : Dr Makosso Laurent
12:45 - 13:15	Plenary Session No.1 Theme: Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG): A new concept for Health, Safety and the Environment <i>Prof. GASANA Janvier</i> Facilitators: Prof HINSON Antoine Vikkey Dr AMI TOURE Raïssatou Secretary : Dr GUIEGUI Chimène
13:15 - 14:30	LUNCH BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS
14:30 - 17:00	CLOSING CEREMONY
17:00 - 18:00	WELCOME COCKTAIL ENTERTAINED BY THE TOWARA GROUP

**DAY TWO
TUESDAY 2ST
DECEMBER 2025**

Time	Activities	Rooms
9:00 - 10:30	Facilitators : Prof KOUASSI Mathias, Prof SOPOH Ghislain, Dr LAWIN Hervé	
	Plenary Session No.2 Theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary industries	
	Prof. AYELO Paul	
	Plenary Session No.3 Theme: Overview of occupational risks in the secondary industries	Salle Bleue
	Prof. WOGNIN Barthélémy	
	Plenary Session No.4 Theme: Approaches and strategies for preventing occupational risks	
	Prof. YEBOUE Yves	
10:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	
11:00 - 13:00	Oral presentations CO1 - CO9	Salle Bleue
	Oral presentations CO10 - CO16	Laguna 1
	Poster presentations CA1 - CA 5	Hall
13:00 - 14:30	LUNCH BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	
14:30 - 15:30	Facilitators : Prof. HINSON Antoine Vikkey, MCA LOMPO Sandrine, Dr HAZOUME	
	Plenary Session No.5 Theme: ILO contribution to occupational risk prevention and management	Salle Bleue
	Dr DIEUBOUÉ Joseph	
	Plenary Session No.6 Theme: How to integrate psychosocial risks into the Single Risk Assessment Document (DUER)	
	DUBROCA Arnaud : CEO of the French National Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (Centre national France SST)	
15:30 - 16:00	COFFEE BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	

Time	Activities	Rooms
16:00 - 17:30	Oral presentations CO17- CO24	Salle Bleue
	Oral presentations CO25- CO32	Laguna 1
	Oral presentations CO33- CO40	Laguna 2
	Oral presentations CA6 -CA11	Hall
	Poster presentations CA12- CA22	
17:30	END OF THE DAY	

DAY THREE
WEDNESDAY 3RD
DECEMBER 2025

Time	Activities	Rooms
8:30 - 9:30	Facilitators : Prof. YEBOUE Yves, Prof. GASANA Janvier, MCA DAMIEN Georgia	
	Plenary Session No.7	
	Theme: Socio-economic impacts of occupational risks Prof. Mathias KOUASSI	
	Plenary Session No.8 Theme: Occupational rhinological disorders in Africa: challenges and prospects MCA LAWSON AFOUDA Sonia	Salle Bleue
9:30 - 10:30	Facilitators : Prof KOUASSI Mathias, MCA MAMA CISSE Ibrahim, Dr BEDIE Lucile	
	Plenary Session No.9	
	Theme: Challenges of fundamental rights at work for occupational risk management Dr DIEUBOUE Joseph	Salle Bleue
	Plenary Session No.10 Theme: Occupational risks for pregnant women Dr FABIN Claire	
13:30 - 11:00	COFFEE BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	
11:00 - 12:45	SYMPOSIUM SOPAST	
	Facilitators : Prof OUENDO Edgard (Public Health Professor) - Dr Joseph KAPTSUE (SG SOPAST)	Salle Bleue
13:00 - 14:30	LUNCH BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	
14:30 - 15:30	Facilitators : Prof. YEBOUE Yves, MCA MIKPONHOUE Rose, MA TOHON Onesty	
	Plenary Session No.11	
	Theme: The role of biological markers in assessing genotoxicity in occupational pathology MCA AZONBAKIN Simon	
	Plenary Session No.12 Theme: The role of the compounding pharmacist in the pharmaceutical production chain and occupational safety management MCA ASSANHOU Assoqba Gabin	Salle Bleue

Time	Activities	Rooms
	Plenary Session No.13 Theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace MCA LOMPO SANON Sandrine	
14:30 - 15:30	Oral communications CO40- CO44	Laguna 1
	Oral communications CO45-CO49	Laguna 2
15:30 - 16:00	COFFEE BREAK - VISITING THE EXHIBITION STANDS	
	Facilitators : Prof WOGNIN Barthelemy, MCA LOMPO Sandrine	
	Plenary Session No.14 Theme: Psychosocial risks: the current situation in Benin MCA. MIKPONHOU Rose	
	Plenary Session No.15 Theme: Occupational risk factors in sub-Saharan African agriculture MCA. MAMA CISSE Ibrahim	
16:00 - 17:15	Plenary Session No.16 Theme: Prevention of occupational risks in the construction sector in Benin: current situation and challenges MCA. ADJOBIMEY Mênouli	Salle Bleue
	Plenary Session No.17 Theme: Pregnancy and work MCA. DANGBEMEY Djima Patrice	
	Facilitators : Prof. AYELO Paul, MCA ADJOBIMEY Mênouli, MA GUIEGUI Chimène	
17:15 - 17:45	Plenary Session No.18 Theme: Skin tests in occupational allergology: tools for diagnosing and preventing work-related allergies Dr Tahirou HAMIDOU	Salle Bleue
	Oral communications CO 50 – CO 56	
16:00 - 17:45	Oral communications CO 57 – CO 63	Laguna 2
	Poster communications CA 18- CA 22	Hall
17:45	END OF THE DAY	

Time	Activities	Rooms
19:30 - 23:00	GALA DINNER	

**TECHNICAL
PROGRAMME
SOPAST
SYMPOSIUM
LAUNCH OF
RASSTE**

3 DECEMBER 2025
TIME : 11:15 - 12:45

Duration	Activities	Speaker(s)	Anchoring
10 min	Welcoming and installation	SOPAST communications unit & Hostesses	Viewing of institutional film and SOPAST archives/RASSTE logo
10 min	Introductory remarks & presentation of the symposium	SG/SOPAST (Moderator) : Dr KAPTUE Joseph	Presents the objectives and program of the symposium
15 min	Words of support	<i>Representatives of partners:</i> • Dean of FSS, or a • international organisation (ICOH/ILO)	Brief messages of congratulations and appreciation for the initiative.
20 min	Technical and scientific presentation of RASSTE	Editor-in-Chief of RASSTE	<i>Convincing researchers that RASSTE is the best place to publish</i>
10 min	Testimonial from the scientific committee	<i>A distinguished member of the editorial board</i>	Highlights the journal's rigour and scientific ambition.
20 min	Formal launch speech and symbolic act	Executive Chairman of SOPAST Director of Publications	• Formal launch speech • Symbolic act: unveiling of the RASSTE cover
30 min	Question and answer session	Moderator and RASSTE team	Interact with researchers and stakeholders.
10 min	Closing remarks for the symposium	SG/SOPAST	Recap of the symposium highlights, acknowledgements, and announcement of the next steps for the Congress.

Duration	Activities	Speaker(s)	Anchoring
35 min	• Family photo • Visit to the RASSTE stand at the conference • RASSTE launch cocktail party	SOPAST communications unit	• Ensure that RASSTE is embraced by the target audiences (researchers, prevention specialists, decision-makers, students). • Distribute flyers on recommendations for authors and the cover of the first issue. • Live coverage of the event on social media: photos, short videos, key quotes from the President and Editor-in-Chief in real time on Facebook, Instagram, WhatsApp, etc. • Networking and informal distribution of the first issue.



**DAY FOUR
THURSDAY 4
DECEMBER 2025**



Time	Activities	Rooms
9:00 - 10:30	Facilitators : Prof. SOPOH Ghislain, Prof HINSON Antoine, MA GUIEGUI Chimène	
	Conference No.19	
	Theme: Climate change/Extreme weather events and their effects on the health of workers and of the general population	
	Prof. GASANA Janvier	
	Conference No.20	
	Theme: How can the 33 indicators of workplace ergonomics be integrated into an effective prevention strategy?	
	DUBROCA Arnaud: CEO of the French National Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (Centre national France SST)	Salla Bleue
	Conference No. 21: Prevention and Management of Vibration Risk	
	Dr Claire FABIN	
	Conference No.22: 'Using Teamwork and Innovative Technology in Occupational Health (OH) to Strengthen OH Capacity in Education, Practice and Research in Developing Countries'.	
	Prof GASANA Janvier	
	10:30 - 11:00	PRESENTATION OF THE FINAL REPORT
	11:00 - 12:30	CLOSING CEREMONY
	12:30 - 14:00	LUNCH
AFTERNOON	FREE TIME FOR TOURISM	

OPENING KEYNOTE

PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS.

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ABSTRACT

The concept of 'occupational risk' can be defined as all threats to workers' health in the course of their professional activities that result in an accident at work or an illness that is 'occupational' or work-related.

The aim of occupational risk prevention in an organisation is to ensure the safety and health of workers in all aspects of their activities in order to avoid or reduce accidents at work and occupational or work-related illnesses by taking appropriate measures.

In Africa, recent decades have been marked by significant growth and development in the construction, services, industry, agriculture, mining and manufacturing sectors.

This development is generally taking place in a context of precarious working conditions, particularly in the informal sector.

Statistics also show that approximately one in five deaths, or 18%, occur in sub-Saharan Africa, even though this region accounts for only 2% of total global salaried employment. This has led to an increase in the number of workers exposed to hazardous working conditions and a resurgence of occupational accidents and diseases.

Occupational safety and health remain crucial issues for the development of African countries.

At the level of our States, the ratification and, above all, the implementation of Convention No. 155 on Occupational Safety and Health and Convention No. 187 on the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health are of particular strategic importance.

The tripartite constituents should develop and strengthen occupational safety and health management mechanisms by engaging in genuine social dialogue, including the creation of effective Occupational Safety and Health Committees at national, sectoral and enterprise levels, updating legislation and supporting the implementation of standards and benchmarks for occupational safety and health management systems. Several challenges include:

- Evaluating existing policies and regulations in order to better adapt the governance of occupational safety and health activities;
- A multidisciplinary approach and the mobilisation of all stakeholders;
- The promotion of scientific research and the production of African data;
- Addressing the risks associated with climate change;
- Promoting a culture of prevention in occupational safety and health.

It is the responsibility of governments, employers' organisations, workers' organisations and professional organisations to work together to ensure that the right to a safe and healthy working environment is respected at all levels.

Keywords: occupational risk, prevention, occupational health, governance, Africa.

PLENARY SESSIONS

CONFERENCE No.1

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE (ESG) AS A NEW CONCEPT FOR SAFETY, HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT (EHS)

Prof. GASANA Janvier

ABSTRACT

This presentation examines the importance of ESG in protecting workers and the environment. We will discuss the three pillars of ESG (environmental, social and governance) and their impact on business performance.

An ESG score relates to environmental, social and governance factors. It is an indicator that assesses a company's performance in three key areas: 1) Environmental (E): impacts on the natural environment, such as carbon footprint, resource use and waste management, 2) Social (S): relationships with employees, customers and communities, particularly in terms of diversity, labour practices and community engagement, and 3) Governance (G): leadership, business ethics and transparency in corporate decision-making.

Many immature companies with low initial scores will need additional guidance to improve.

Examples include: 1) Environmental (E): Carbon footprint reduction: investment in renewable energy, energy-efficient technologies and carbon offset programs. 2) Social (S): Diversity and inclusion: implementing policies to ensure workforce diversity and equal opportunities; and 3) Governance (G): Ethics and anti-corruption and bribery: implementing ethical principles and avoiding conflicts of interest at all levels, including the board of directors and senior management.

We will present examples of successful ESG practices and discuss the benefits of integrating ESG into corporate strategy, including risk reduction, reputation enhancement and talent attraction. Finally, we will highlight the importance of transparency and accountability in ESG implementation.

Keywords: ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance), Corporate Responsibility, Sustainability and Performance, Transparency and Ethics

CONFERENCE No.2

OVERVIEW OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE PRIMARY SECTORS IN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

The primary sector has always played a dominant role in economic activity everywhere. It is essentially devoted to the production of raw materials that are transferred to the secondary sector for processing for consumption by the tertiary sector. Primary sector activities are those devoted to the exploitation of natural resources. These include agriculture, livestock farming, fishing, mining and forestry.

Less industrialised Africa is the continent with the most primary sector activities, compared to other more industrialised continents that more consume raw materials.

Indeed, work in the primary sector in Africa poses a real health and safety problem, mainly due to its predominantly informal nature. In such an unfavourable context, the emergence of complex situations in terms of exposure to hazards of all kinds will obviously lead to an increase in occupational risks. That is why it is important to carry out a thorough assessment of these risks and identify the most appropriate measures for their prevention. This is the purpose of this exercise.

With this in mind, a few questions immediately spring to mind. Is there any high-quality statistical data that would enable a reliable assessment of the various work situations and underlying risks? In which primary sector can we find a model organisation in terms of occupational risk prevention measures?

What would be the next step after this assessment of occupational risks in the primary sectors?

The above questions are mainly intended to stimulate discussion and strategic thinking in all organisations responsible for occupational health and safety in primary sector companies in Africa. These reflections will undoubtedly shed light on the enormous existential challenges of occupational health and safety in the primary sectors in Africa.

Keywords: primary sectors, risks, diagnosis, Africa

CONFERENCE No.3

OVERVIEW OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE SECONDARY SECTORS

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ABSTRACT

The secondary sector plays a strategic role in economic development. It encompasses all activities involved in transforming raw materials into semi-finished or finished products, including manufacturing, construction and public works, and energy production. According to the ILO (2023), it accounts for approximately 25 to 35% of the active workforce.

In Côte d'Ivoire, it accounted for 24.5% of GDP in 2023 and 17.3% in Benin. In Africa, despite its economic importance, the expansion of this sector is accompanied by workers' exposure to various occupational risks.

This study aims to provide an overview of the main occupational risks to which employees in the secondary sector are exposed and to analyse their implications in terms of occupational health and prevention. It is based on a descriptive review of institutional reports (ILO, INRS) and scientific publications on the sub-sectors of construction, metallurgy, textiles and agri-food.

The results reveal a predominance of mechanical risks, dominated by falls from height, falling objects and accidents involving machinery and tools. As for physical risks, particularly noise, mechanical vibrations and heat, occupational deafness remains one of the most feared occupational diseases. Chemical risks mainly concern welding fumes, solvents and dust, exposing workers to diseases such as occupational asthma, COPD and bronchopulmonary cancers. In terms of ergonomics, awkward postures, heavy lifting and repetitive movements are major factors in musculoskeletal disorders.

The preventive measures identified are based on three areas: collective technical measures (ventilation at source, marking of risk areas, automation of dangerous tasks, ergonomic design of workstations); individual measures (wearing of protective equipment and safety training); and medical surveillance of workers, adapted to specific risks.

In conclusion, occupational risks in the secondary sector are a major health and safety issue. In Africa, strengthening the culture of prevention, regulation and medical surveillance of workers offers prospects for progress towards a safe and healthy working environment.

Keywords: Secondary sector, occupational risks, prevention

CONFERENCE No.4

APPROACHES AND STRATEGIES FOR PREVENTING OCCUPATIONAL RISKS

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ABSTRACT

Occupational risk prevention (ORP) refers to all measures implemented to ensure the safety and preserve the physical and mental health of employees through continuous improvement of the organisation and working conditions (INRS).

Analysis of international and national frameworks reveals the coexistence of several strategic approaches to occupational health and safety (OHS), reflecting the specific mandates of various partners:

The World Health Organisation (WHO): favours a public health approach, focused on medical activity and the promotion of overall health;

The International Labour Organisation (ILO): adopts a normative and tripartite approach, intervening through conventions, recommendations and national OSH policies, working with ministries of labour;

The International Social Security Association (ISSA): acts through national social security organisations, focusing on quantifiable reductions in occupational accidents and diseases. In particular, the ISSA promotes the comprehensive and proactive Vision Zero approach in many countries.

Beyond institutional approaches, operational prevention strategies are at the heart of OSH policy. These are organised processes that aim to reduce occupational risks using a rigorous methodology: anticipation, identification, prioritisation and implementation of control measures. The prioritisation of

actions follows the general principles of prevention, favouring collective effectiveness:

1. Elimination of the hazard at source;
2. Substitution with less hazardous processes;
3. Technical controls (collective protection);
4. Personal protective equipment (PPE) (last resort).

The legal approach to prevention involves structured tripartite collaboration: employers are responsible for implementation, employees are participants and actors, and the authorities exercise a sovereign role of regulation and control.

As attitudes and practices evolve, a clear trend is emerging: incentive-based approaches are now preferred to coercive measures, and proactive measures (risk anticipation) are taking precedence over reactive measures (management of consequences after the event).

Finally, the practical implementation of occupational risk prevention requires a holistic approach, involving interventions that simultaneously target people, work organisation and technical resources.

Keywords: occupational health and safety, prevention, strategy.

CONFERENCE NO.5

CONTRIBUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION (ILO) TO THE PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT

As the United Nations agency responsible for labour issues worldwide, the ILO develops initiatives to promote the prevention and management of occupational risks. It promotes social dialogue and ensures that normative decisions on occupational safety and health (OSH) are the result of consultation between the tripartite constituents of its 187 member countries.

This is a summary of a thematic communication. It is a review of the literature, accompanied by guidance on the technical tools to be used.

The ILO has adopted some 40 international labour standards in the field of OSH. These are classified into four groups. The first group comprises those with a general scope, including Convention No. 155 and Recommendation No. 164 (C155/R164) on the safety and health of workers, and C187/R197 on the promotional framework for OSH. These two conventions, which have become fundamental (2022), provide countries with the necessary instruments and steps (System, Profile, Policy and National Program) for the implementation of a systemic approach to OSH management based on the principles of continuous improvement. It also includes C161/R171 on occupational health services. Other groups include those dealing with protection against specific risks, protection in specific industries and protection of specific groups of workers. Several technical tools have been developed, including: guidelines on OSH management systems (ILO-OSH2001) and guidelines on OSH in several sectors of activity; Prevention-Productivity programs based on practical, low-cost approaches to facilitate improvements in work in SMEs/SMIs. The ILO organises promotional activities for the development of research and knowledge sharing in OSH: World Day for Safety and Health at Work (28 April) and the World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, which is held every three years.

The Regional Office for Africa contributes to the development of occupational risk management in the countries it covers.

Keywords: International standard, International Labour Organisation, Occupational safety and health.

CONFERENCE NO.6

HOW TO INTEGRATE PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS INTO THE SINGLE RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT (DUER)

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ABSTRACT

Taking psychosocial risks (PSRs) into account in the Single Risk Assessment Document (DUER) is now a major challenge for organisations. Long considered intangible or difficult to objectify, PSRs are now recognised as determining factors in occupational health, collective performance and organisational stability. This conference offers a rigorous and operational approach to enable professionals to understand the scientific basis of PSRs and to integrate them into the DUER in a reliable, traceable and regulatory-compliant manner.

The presentation will begin with a scientific insight into the mechanisms of psychosocial risks, based on reference theoretical models such as the six-category analysis model established by a panel of French scientific experts in 2011, revised in 2024, and its work on psychosocial exposure factors. These models will enable participants to understand how factors such as work intensity, emotional demands, lack of autonomy and socio-economic insecurity influence psychological health and organisational dynamics.

A section will be devoted to the regulatory framework, recently strengthened by developments in 2022, which now more strictly structures the rules for updating, archiving and accessing the DUER. The employer's safety obligation, civil and criminal liability, and the increased expectations of social partners will be clarified in order to show why taking psychosocial risks into account in the DUER is no longer an option, but a strategic and legal necessity.

The conference will then propose a concrete methodology for integrating psychosocial risks into the DUER. The various assessment methods (INRS, ANACT, scientifically validated questionnaires), data collection methods (interviews, observations, HR indicators) and ways of objectifying a

psychosocial phenomenon in order to transform it into a measurable risk will be discussed. Participants will learn how to identify work situations that are sources of psychosocial risks, build a coherent analysis grid and prioritise risks based on objective criteria.

The discussion will continue with the development of an appropriate and effective action plan. The speaker will explain how to distinguish between primary prevention actions (acting on the organisation of work), secondary prevention actions (strengthening regulatory skills) and tertiary prevention actions (supporting employees in difficulty). Concrete examples will be used to illustrate how to structure a realistic prevention program that is supported by senior management, shared with managers and aligned with Quality of Life and Working Conditions (QVCT).

Finally, the conference will highlight the importance of integrating psychosocial risks into a comprehensive and dynamic prevention approach. It will show how to link the DUER (single document on occupational risks) with HR practices, the work of committees (CSST), HSE actions, and how to establish a sustainable prevention culture.

By combining scientific insight, regulatory framework and operational tools, this conference will offer participants a clear, pragmatic and structured vision enabling them to effectively integrate psychosocial risks into the DUER and sustainably improve occupational health within their organisations.

Keywords: Psychosocial risks, Single Risk Assessment Document, Occupational health prevention, Regulatory framework

CONFERENCE NO.7

SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS

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ABSTRACT

The annual global incidence of occupational risks is estimated at 120 million cases, including 500 deaths per day, according to the International Labour Office (ILO).

In economic terms, the cost of workplace accidents is 20 times the official amount of development aid. The human cost in terms of suffering and disability is high.

The economic consequences include the costs of healthcare, adaptation and training at work, absenteeism, loss of productivity, the cost of hiring and training replacements, increased insurance costs, administrative processes (investigation, file management, etc.) and the purchase and repair of equipment.

The social consequences relate to physical and mental health issues (disability, depression, etc.), the effects on households (loss of income, debt, children missing school, stigmatisation and difficulty integrating into society after disability). According to European statistics (Eurostat, 2022), 3,008 workers died at work as a result of occupational accidents and 103,742 suffered permanent or temporary disability lasting more than six months. According to the ILO, in sub-Saharan Africa, one in three serious accidents leads to job loss.

The human and economic consequences of occupational risks are enormous for the worker who is the victim, their family and society.

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including the right to a safe and healthy working environment, is a major step forward in preventing occupational risks and reducing their socio-economic impact.

Keywords: Occupational risks – socio-economic impact – Disability

CONFERENCE NO.8

OCCUPATIONAL RHINOLOGICAL DISEASES IN AFRICA: CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS

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ABSTRACT

Occupational rhinological conditions are an underestimated public health problem, particularly in Africa, where surveillance and medico-legal recognition remain limited. These conditions, mainly occupational rhinitis and sinusitis, result from repeated exposure to irritants or allergens in various work environments.

A literature review was conducted based on recent data (2010-2025) on occupational rhinitis and sinusitis. The selected articles enabled an analysis of the distribution of manifestations according to sector of activity, causative agents, pathophysiological mechanisms, and strategies for diagnosis, management and prevention. These studies show that diagnosis and treatment are more systematic in developed countries. What about African countries, including Benin?

The most common conditions affect workers in the industrial, agricultural, medical, baking, hairdressing and woodworking sectors. The agents involved include flour, disinfectants, organic dust, formaldehyde and solvents. Symptoms range from allergic rhinitis to chronic sinusitis, sometimes associated with severe complications. Medical management is based on avoiding or reducing exposure, symptomatic treatment (antihistamines, corticosteroids, nasal washes) and, in some cases, specific desensitisation. Medical-legal recognition, which is still insufficient in Africa, involves reporting the disease, compiling a convincing case file and compensating the worker.

Occupational rhinological disorders represent a neglected occupational health issue in Africa. Their diagnosis and recognition require a multidisciplinary approach involving general practitioners, ENT specialists, psychologists and occupational physicians. Strengthening prevention, training and the establishment or improvement of regulatory frameworks is essential to reduce

their impact and improve worker protection, and in turn, maximise business performance.

Keywords: Rhinological pathologies, treatment, prevention, forensic medicine

CONFERENCE NO.9

FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AT WORK FOR OCCUPATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Fundamental rights at work are essential to ensuring a respectful, safe and healthy working environment. The International Labour Conference (ILC) recently reinforced this concept by adopting, in June 2022, an amendment making a 'safe and healthy working environment' a fundamental right at work. This amendment complements the 1998 ILO Declaration, which highlights four key fundamental principles and rights: freedom of association, the elimination of forced labour and child labour, and non-discrimination in employment.

This communication presents how the protection of these fundamental rights at work can strengthen occupational risk management. Indeed, the ILO's fundamental principles and rights at work are based on the fundamental conventions that accompany them. There are 10 such fundamental conventions, among which we particularly note Convention No. 155 on occupational safety and health and Convention No. 187 on the promotion of occupational safety and health, the implementation of which contributes significantly to the political and technical governance of occupational risks at national and company level. Occupational risks, whatever their nature, have a direct impact on workers' health and company performance. Fundamental rights therefore play a crucial role in managing these risks by providing a legal framework that encourages employers to implement prevention policies. Employers' responsibilities now include the obligation to ensure a safe and healthy working environment, in accordance with the provisions of the fundamental conventions.

This communication also highlights the challenges relating to the inclusion of OSH in fundamental rights at work, the state of implementation of this fundamental right and the contribution of the various actors in the world of work

to the promotion of these rights for the strengthening of occupational risk management.

Keywords: Fundamental rights at work, Safe and healthy working environment, Occupational risks.

CONFERENCE No.10

OCCUPATIONAL RISKS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

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ABSTRACT

Whether in the formal or informal sector, many women of childbearing age are in work. However, the risks of exposure to factors that are harmful to the mother-to-be or her unborn child can be difficult to assess, as the risks are varied and the effects differ depending on the stage of pregnancy and can affect either the woman or her child.

The risks are varied: physical risks include ionising radiation, noise, vibrations and manual handling; biological risks include exposure via the air, skin contact, AES, zoonoses and chemical risks through passive exposure and product handling, including multiple exposures with possible potentiation; and/or technical and organisational risks such as night work, workstations and travel. In addition, the intensity, duration and period of exposure can have varying effects on both the mother and the child, depending on the potential damage to the organs affected.

Prevention approach: identify the risks, assess them, reduce them to a minimum if it is not possible to eliminate them: substitution, appropriate organisation and operating procedures, collective protection supplemented if necessary by PPE, reinforcement of health and safety instructions and medical monitoring so as not to expose pregnant women to reprotoxic chemicals. Continuing to work is not recommended unless exposure is certain to be less than 1/10 of the recommended limit values with optimised preventive measures. The following products are harmful to pregnant women (non-exhaustive list):

- Metals and metalloids: mercury, lead and arsenic
- Gases and volatile substances: anaesthetic gases, nitrous oxide, CO, ethylene oxide
- Numerous solvents, pesticides, vinyl chloride, antimitotic drugs, dioxins.

A few examples will be presented, illustrating the exposure of pregnant women in the workplace with adaptations, adjustments or temporary changes:

- Healthcare sector: radiographer, pharmacy technician preparing chemotherapy products, night nurse
- Industrial sector: worker in a solvent-based glue workshop, head of the control department at this factory
- Tertiary sector: store inspector, supermarket employee
- Transport: long-distance lorry driver

Some tools: collection and study of SDSs, CRAT sites, INRS DEMETER, job-exposure matrices, case-control studies, cohort studies, particularly for chemical risks such as ELFE, PELAGIE, CHAMACOS, BiSC, SEPAGES, or ARTEMIS, and even congenital malformation registries.

Conclusion: importance of the role of the occupational physician, advisor to the employer and employees

Anticipate assessing the risks of workstations for pregnancy, protect if necessary and propose possible temporary adjustments to work activities.

Do not forget, in this a priori assessment, fertility disorders: delayed conception, miscarriages, situations and products that harm fertility in women or men.

- ➔ Inform the employer, staff representatives, new recruits and, of course, other employees about the risks in the workplace for pregnant women and how to prevent them, and advise pregnant women to consult the occupational physician as soon as possible to discuss any adjustments that may be needed to their workplace, bearing in mind that the occupational physician is always bound by medical confidentiality.
- ➔ Support the company in implementing strategies to protect pregnant women, regardless of their status, by transferring them to a suitable position if necessary.
- ➔ If necessary, also provide information on chemical risk management and on breastfeeding and work.
- ➔ Remind pregnant women of lifestyle advice, particularly regarding diet, sleep, mobile phone use, etc., and express a desire to see them again when they return from maternity leave.

Keywords: Pregnancy, Occupational risks - Job assessment

CONFERENCE No.11

THE ROLE OF BIOLOGICAL MARKERS IN ASSESSING GENOTOXICITY IN OCCUPATIONAL PATHOLOGY

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ABSTRACT

Genotoxicity refers to the ability of a physical, chemical or biological agent to damage genetic material (DNA, chromosomes). In occupational medicine, the assessment of genotoxicity is essential for the early detection of the effects of occupational exposure and the prevention of carcinogenic risks among workers. The assessment of these effects is based on the use of biological markers, which enable either the detection of early genetic damage or the monitoring of exposure or associated biological effects. A range of tests are currently used to detect the initial biological effects of genotoxic agents in different occupational categories: these include exposure markers (comet assay, sister chromatid exchanges, chromosomal aberrations, micronuclei, etc.), effect markers and susceptibility markers. There is also individual genetic variability that influences the response to genotoxins. We propose to review the genotoxic markers available in occupational pathology while also reviewing the markers available in Benin.

Keywords: DNA, genotoxicity, biological markers, micronuclei

CONFERENCE No.12

THE ROLE OF THE GALENIC PHARMACIST IN THE PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTION CHAIN AND WORKPLACE SAFETY MANAGEMENT

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ABSTRACT

Galenic pharmacy is a central pillar of pharmaceutical production, ensuring the transformation of active ingredients into stable, effective and safe medicinal forms. The galenic pharmacist plays a strategic role at every stage of the production chain, from the design and validation of formulations to industrial transposition, including process supervision and quality control. Their mastery of the physicochemical and biopharmaceutical properties of active substances, as well as their in-depth knowledge of excipients and industrial processes, ensures the reproducibility and safety of the batches produced, in accordance with Good Manufacturing Practices and international standards.

At the same time, workplace safety is an essential part of their mission. Galenic pharmacists identify and assess the risks associated with highly potent active substances, sterile environments and critical operations. They implement prevention strategies including hierarchy of controls, containment, controlled ventilation, continuous training and the wearing of personal protective equipment. The integration of analytical methods such as FMEA and risk analysis helps to reduce incidents and strengthen a culture of safety within teams.

Thus, the galenic pharmacist acts as the conductor of quality, compliance and industrial safety, reconciling pharmaceutical innovation and operator protection. Their cross-functional role not only guarantees the therapeutic efficacy of medicines but also ensures risk control, consolidating their position as a key player in performance and safety in the modern pharmaceutical industry.

Keywords: Workplace safety, Good Practices, Pharmaceutical industry

CONFERENCE No.13

STRESS AND OTHER MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AMONG WORKERS IN THE WORKPLACE

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ABSTRACT

Mental health is not limited to the absence of mental health problems. Rather, it is a state of mental well-being that enables everyone to cope with the stresses of life, realise their potential, learn and work effectively, and contribute to their community. It is estimated that 15% of working-age adults suffer from a mental disorder at any given time. Mental health disorders among workers are a major public health problem, exacerbated by psychosocial risks (PSRs) in the workplace. Mental health disorders among workers include chronic stress, anxiety, depression and burnout, and are linked, among other things, to the nature of the job or working hours (work overload, difficult interpersonal relationships), the characteristics of the working environment (lack of autonomy, lack of career prospects) and internal or external violence. Although work is a major factor, individual and external factors such as family difficulties can also affect mental health. The consequences are numerous, both for the worker (emotional and physical exhaustion, psychological distress, lack of enthusiasm, anxiety, depression and, in the most serious cases, suicidal thoughts) and on the institution (increased absenteeism and presenteeism, decreased performance, high turnover and increased workplace accidents), with a significant impact on employee well-being and business productivity. As a result, institutions must implement strategies to prevent these psychosocial risks, both in terms of work organisation and the working environment.

Keywords: Mental wellbeing, psychological disorders, psychosocial risks, burnout

CONFERENCE No.14

PSYCHOSOCIAL RISKS: CURRENT SITUATION IN BENIN

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ABSTRACT

Psychosocial risks (PSRs) encompass several occupational risks that jeopardise the physical and/or mental integrity of employees and can affect their health and the performance of the organisation and structure. They are cited by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) as one of the emerging risks at work that companies must address. They include stress, acts of external violence (physical or verbal, perpetrated by people outside the company) and internal violence (moral or sexual harassment, major conflicts) and others. Stress is a harmful physical and emotional response caused by an imbalance between perceived demands and individuals' abilities and resources to cope with those demands. Despite the promotion of leisure spaces and technological advances that reduce the drudgery of professional tasks, complaints related to stress and psychosocial risks are constantly on the rise. According to the Gollac report, they result from a combination of professional situations such as job insecurity, excessive workload, lack of autonomy and room for manoeuvre, emotional demands, deteriorated social relations and value conflicts.

Psychosocial risks have an impact on physical health (musculoskeletal disorders, cardiovascular disease, worsening of underlying chronic conditions, anxiety and depression) and on the company in terms of increased absenteeism, high staff turnover, reduced productivity and an increase in accidents.

This conference takes stock of the epidemiological and diagnostic aspects by revisiting the occupational factors involved and the arguments for diagnosis, leading to simplified recommendations for management in our context.

While a few countries, such as Denmark, have recognised stress as an occupational illness eligible for compensation, the management of psychosocial risks as an illness is far from being a reality, especially in Africa, where mental health issues seem to be relegated to the background. Awareness campaigns are important to highlight psychosocial risks in the workplace, and advocacy is needed to improve the management of these risks in our communities.

Keywords: Occupational stress, Burnout, Chronic diseases, Benin.

CONFERENCE No.15

OCCUPATIONAL RISK FACTORS IN THE SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENT

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ABSTRACT

Occupational risk factors in the sub-Saharan African agricultural environment can be classified into five categories:

Physical risks, particularly extreme temperatures, leading to dehydration. Noise causing hearing problems, combined with injuries related to agricultural machinery and equipment, often involving risks of overturning, collision, crushing or entanglement. Falls from height or on level ground: these can occur when working at height. Frequent musculoskeletal disorders are linked to awkward postures, repetitive movements and heavy lifting, such as when spraying pesticides. Exposure to noise and vibrations when using agricultural machinery and equipment generates high noise levels and vibrations, which can cause hearing damage or musculoskeletal disorders.

Chemical risks: mainly pesticides, which can cause acute accidental poisoning or chronic poisoning through prolonged exposure to low doses. Exposure to these products can lead to diseases such as Parkinson's disease, cancer (prostate) or non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Poisoning from snake, scorpion, spider, bee and wasp bites is common, often resulting in death due to a lack of specific antivenom serum.

Physical and chemical risks: organic dust (fodder, cereals) and toxic gases (silos, livestock effluents) can cause respiratory problems. Cereal dust, animal hair and mould can cause allergic reactions and asthma.

Biological risks: Contact with animals, animal waste or contaminated soil can expose workers to bacteria, viruses and parasites (e.g. typhoid fever, cholera, avian influenza or other zoonoses). Wounds or microtraumas expose workers to tetanus.

Psychosocial risks (PSRs): Psychosocial risks are dominated by land conflicts and conflicts between herders and farmers, which cause stress and repeated displacement, leading to famine.

Keywords: Occupational risk, Agriculture, South of Sahara.

CONFERENCE No.16

PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR IN BENIN: CURRENT SITUATION AND CHALLENGES

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ABSTRACT

The construction and public works sector plays a strategic role in Benin's development, due to increasing urbanisation, infrastructure projects and the expansion of public and private construction sites. However, it remains one of the sectors most exposed to occupational accidents and diseases. Recurring hazards include falls from height, structural collapses, heavy lifting, machine-related injuries, and prolonged exposure to noise, heat, cement dust and silica dust. On many construction sites, particularly those in the informal or subcontracted sector, safety measures are minimal, and work organisation remains poorly structured.

Although Benin has a regulatory framework based on the Labour Code, ILO regulations, and CNSS requirements, the actual application of these standards is often limited by a lack of resources, inadequate ongoing supervision, and productivity pressures on construction sites. Personal protective equipment is sometimes unavailable, unsuitable or misused. Only a small proportion of workers receive training in occupational health and safety, with the majority working without prior awareness. Medical monitoring remains irregular, particularly for temporary or informal workers, who nevertheless make up a large part of the construction workforce in Benin.

The culture of prevention is still insufficiently established, due to the low level of involvement of project owners, the lack of resources available to labour inspection services, and limited coordination between companies, the CNSS and occupational health services. To improve safety on construction sites in the long term, it is necessary to strengthen regulations, harmonise practices,

develop mandatory training, and promote genuine leadership in prevention. Making safety a national priority is essential to reduce accidents, protect workers, and improve the overall performance of the construction sector in Benin.

Keywords: Construction, Prevention, Informal economy.

CONFERENCE No.17

PREGNANCY AND LABOUR

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Faculty of Health Sciences of Cotonou, University of Abomey-Calavi

ABSTRACT

Despite significant efforts by governments, maternal and neonatal mortality rates mean that several African countries, particularly Benin, will not meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. The fight against this scourge must include the management of risks associated with pregnancy.

The combination of pregnancy and work is risky because certain occupations expose pregnant women to specific risks that can lead to preventable obstetric complications. Preventing morbidities as cause of death requires a good understanding of the occupations involved, the exposures, the obstetric morbidities and their mechanisms, on the one hand, and, on the other, the adaptation of the workplace, medical supervision and awareness-raising among employers.

The occupations most at risk for pregnancy in the literature were healthcare, cleaning, manufacturing, agriculture and commerce. The occupational factors observed were: exposure to chemical agents, physical constraints, atypical working hours, night work, occupational stress, infectious factors, ionising radiation, etc. Each of these occupational exposures has a specific mechanism that causes reciprocal influences. The influences of work on pregnancy are mainly represented by obstetric morbidities such as miscarriages, malformations, intrauterine growth retardation, hypertension and its complications, and premature delivery.

Prevention is based on a three-pronged approach: workplace adaptation, medical monitoring and employee involvement in the fight against occupational diseases during pregnancy.

It is therefore necessary for strategies to reduce maternal and neonatal mortality in Benin to include occupational diseases related to pregnancy in their package of interventions.

Keywords: Occupational constraints, Abortion, Haemorrhage, Malformations.

CONFERENCE No.18

SKIN TESTS IN OCCUPATIONAL ALLERGOLOGY: TOOLS FOR DIAGNOSING AND PREVENTING WORK-RELATED ALLERGIES

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ABSTRACT

Skin tests are an essential part of diagnosis in occupational allergology. They enable the accurate identification of sensitising agents present in the workplace that are responsible for numerous allergic skin conditions and respiratory disorders such as occupational rhinitis and asthma. Their strategic use promotes early detection of conditions, which is essential for preventing them from developing into severe, chronic or disabling forms.

This conference provides an in-depth presentation of the principles, indications and limitations of the two main skin testing techniques used in the occupational setting:

- **The prick-test**, which explores immediate type I (IgE-dependent) hypersensitivity reactions. It is indicated for the evaluation of sensitisation to latex, flour, enzymes, animal proteins, plant allergens and certain industrial products.
- **The patch-test**, the gold standard technique for detecting delayed type IV reactions involved in allergic contact eczema, can identify sensitisation to metals (nickel, cobalt, chromium), epoxy resins, isocyanates, preservatives, cutting oils, dyes and various chemical agents found in the workplace.

Interpreting these tests requires a detailed and contextualised understanding of the patient's workplace, including:

- Analysis of the workstation and actual exposure conditions,
- Detailed traceability of the products handled,
- Knowledge of agents likely to be sensitising,

- The correlation between results, nature of exposure and clinical manifestations (eczema, urticaria, cough, wheezing, dyspnoea).

This comprehensive approach makes it possible to distinguish a true occupational allergy from simple irritation or irrelevant exposure, improving diagnostic accuracy.

Beyond diagnosis, skin tests play a major role in the primary, secondary and tertiary prevention of occupational allergies. They guide avoidance and substitution strategies, the implementation of collective and individual protective measures, and appropriate medical monitoring of exposed workers. The reliability of tests depends on the quality and standardisation of allergens, compliance with technical protocols, and ongoing training for specialist staff. Recent advances in the international standardisation of allergen extracts and the development of test batteries dedicated to emerging exposures represent major progress for the discipline.

This presentation highlights these developments, while emphasising the public health issues related to the early recognition of occupational allergies, which is essential for the long-term protection of workers' health and quality of life.

Keywords: Occupational allergy, Skin tests, Prick-test, Patch-test

CONFERENCE No.19

CLIMATE CHANGE/EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS AND THEIR EFFECTS ON THE HEALTH OF WORKERS AND OF THE GENERAL POPULATION

Prof. GASANA Janvier

ABSTRACT

Climate change and extreme weather events pose significant risks to the occupational health of workers, particularly in Africa and beyond. Rising temperatures and changes in weather patterns can lead to heat stress, vector-borne diseases and other health problems. Extreme weather events, such as heat waves, floods and droughts, can also cause injuries, illnesses and deaths in the workplace.

It is therefore essential to develop resilient occupational health systems that can adapt to these changing conditions and protect workers from climate-related hazards. Climate change and extreme weather events pose significant risks to the occupational health of workers around the world, particularly in Africa. Rising temperatures, changes in rainfall patterns and increased frequency of extreme weather events can lead to heat stress, vector-borne diseases and other health issues.

This theme will focus on the impact of climate change on occupational health, highlighting the need for resilient occupational health systems to prevent occupational and environmental hazards.

The main discussion points are: 1) Climate change and occupational health – understanding the impact of climate change on workers' health and safety, 2) Extreme weather events and occupational hazards - identifying occupational hazards associated with extreme weather events, 3) Resilient occupational health systems - developing strategies to build resilient occupational health systems, 4) Prevention and mitigation - implementing effective prevention and mitigation measures to protect workers.

The objectives are: 1) Raise awareness - raise awareness of the impact of climate change on occupational health, 2) Share best practices - share best practices for building resilient occupational health systems, 3) Foster

collaboration - foster collaboration among stakeholders to address occupational health risks.

The expected outcomes are: 1) Increased awareness - increased awareness of the impact of climate change on occupational health, 2) Improved resilience - improved resilience of occupational health systems, 3) Effective prevention and mitigation - effective prevention and mitigation measures to protect workers.

Keywords: Climate change, Occupational health, Extreme weather events, Resilient systems

CONFERENCE No.20

HOW CAN THE 33 INDICATORS OF WORKPLACE ERGONOMICS BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN AN EFFECTIVE PREVENTION APPROACH?

Mr Arnaud DUBROCA,

CEO of the French National Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (Centre national France SST)

ABSTRACT

Ergonomics at work is now an essential pillar of occupational risk prevention and sustainable improvement of working conditions. The use of the '33 ergonomics indicators' – recognised for their scientific robustness and operational relevance – makes it possible to analyse work situations in detail, detect risk factors and guide appropriate prevention actions. This conference offers a structured and methodical approach to understanding, analysing and integrating these 33 indicators into a comprehensive prevention strategy that supports human, organisational and technical performance.

The presentation will begin with a review of the scientific foundations of ergonomics, drawing on the main fields of the discipline: physical ergonomics (postures, effort, handling), cognitive ergonomics (mental load, attention, information management) and organisational ergonomics (flow, autonomy, coordination, time constraints). This framework will enable the 33 indicators to be incorporated into a cross-cutting analysis of actual work, highlighting their direct link to the health, safety and efficiency of operators.

The conference will present the indicator families in a structured manner, including: biomechanical constraints, repetitiveness, loads carried, environmental conditions, attentional demands, human-system compatibility, organisation and time management, the quality of human-machine interfaces, and training and skills requirements. These indicators can be linked to adverse effects such as musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), work quality and the risk of error.

Time will be devoted to integrating these indicators into a risk assessment process. The aim will be to show how to transform these observations into objective elements to feed into the DUER (single document on occupational risks), job analyses or continuous improvement projects. Through a step-by-

step methodology – observation of actual work, analysis of activity, identification of discrepancies – participants will identify the 33 indicators as a comprehensive decision-making support system.

The conference will also provide guidance on how to use these indicators as a lever for action, specifying how to align them with regulatory requirements (MSDs, psychosocial risks, noise, handling, etc.) and existing tools (OREGE, RULA, cause trees). Participants will discover how ergonomic indicators can be used to prioritise critical situations, inform prevention action plans, evaluate the effectiveness of measures and justify material or organisational investments.

Concrete examples of work situations – production stations, tertiary environments, logistics, services – will illustrate how the 33 indicators can reveal often invisible constraints: attention overload, unsuitable interfaces, repetitive microtrauma, work variability, conflicting requirements, or mismatches between tasks and skills. These practical cases will provide a better understanding of why an ergonomic approach is not limited to the analysis of postures, but encompasses all the factors that structure the activity. Finally, the conference will highlight the importance of a participatory and multidisciplinary approach, involving operators, managers, prevention specialists, HSE and HR professionals. The aim is to show that the use of the 33 indicators is not only an analytical tool, but also a real driver for continuous improvement and dialogue on work.

By combining scientific rigour, operational clarity and feedback, this conference will give participants the keys to fully integrate the 33 ergonomic indicators into their prevention approach and sustainably improve occupational health in their organisation.

Keywords: Ergonomics at work, Occupational risk prevention, Ergonomic indicators, Occupational health and safety

CONFERENCE No.21

PREVENTION AND MANAGEMENT OF VIBRATION RISK

Dr FABIN Claire,

Specialist in occupational health and industrial hygiene

Chair of ASSITEB-BIORIF

Training in ergonomics

ABSTRACT

Vibration is a mechanical oscillation characterised by a frequency measured in hertz and acceleration measured in m/s^2 along three axes. These physical characteristics, together with the duration of exposure, explain its potential impact on the body.

More than one in four European employees are exposed to vibrations for at least a quarter of their working time.

- Mechanical vibrations, when transmitted to the whole body, pose risks to the health and safety of workers, including low back pain and microtrauma to the spine. They occur when a large area of the body is in contact with a vibrating surface. The energy is transmitted by the seat or the floor. The human body absorbs the vibrations emitted by equipment. However, organs resonate when subjected to certain frequencies. This phenomenon amplifies the harmful effects, particularly in pregnant drivers.
- Mechanical vibrations, when transmitted to the hands and arms, pose risks to workers' health and safety, including vascular disorders, osteoarticular lesions, and neurological or muscular disorders, particularly in the wrists and fingers.

Assessing exposure to vibrations requires identifying the risks, machines such as grinders, polishers, construction, transport and handling equipment, and tools such as jackhammers and drills, and quantifying the duration of exposure. The intensity of exposure and equivalent acceleration, in addition to other factors such as the floor, seat and posture, can be measured using an accelerometer, but can also be reported by the manufacturer, with values provided and assessed using a database such as OSEV for both whole-body and hand-arm vibrations. Two values should be noted: the value triggering preventive action and the exposure limit value.

The preventive approach already involves informing both employers and employees about this risk and its effects, in particular pain, work stoppages and disability:

- For **whole-body vibrations**, the importance of posture, seat adjustment, driving speeds, tyres and driving time.

- As for **hand-arm vibrations**, it is important to remember that when choosing the right equipment and tools for the job, the type of equipment to be used should be based on the task and preference, if possible, the anti-vibration version, devices for fixing or suspending the machine on a support, equipment fitted with non-slip guide and holding handles, etc.
- If it is not possible to measure vibrations, they will provide information on the estimated vibration levels of the equipment used, based on databases.
- The occupational physician may also give advice on 'good practices' for use: avoid applying excessive pressure to tools when it is not necessary, and avoid using equipment or tools that are too large or too small.
- They will also provide information on anti-vibration equipment and appropriate personal protective equipment.

The findings of ergonomic and epidemiological studies conducted on whole-body vibrations are consistent:

The risk posed by vibrations is real and poorly understood.

It is possible to reduce the occurrence of pathologies by adjusting driving time, seat settings, working methods, or ground conditions.

Simplified upstream assessment methods enable a prevention plan to be initiated in accordance with regulations. Field metrology, which takes into account actual working conditions, provides additional information to the experimental and regulatory performance data announced by machine manufacturers.

Keywords: vibrations - lower back pain - hand and wrist injuries

CONFERENCE No.22

**USING TEAMWORK AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY IN
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (OH) TO BUILD OH CAPACITY IN
EDUCATION, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES**

Prof GASANA Janvier

**DETAILED
PROGRAMMES
FOR
PRESENTATIONS**

ORAL AND POSTER PRESENTATIONS

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
Day Two: Tuesday, 2 December 2025		
MORNING		
Sub-theme No.1: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors		
CO1	Analysis of pesticide residues in vegetables (in the case of cabbage) from the market gardening areas of Fidjrossè, Houéyiho and Haie Vive in Cotonou, and a CAP study of users and consumers on the risks involved. Hounsinou Elvis Hinson Antoine Vikkey Adjobimey Mènonli, Mikponhoue Rose, Tossou Eric, Djouaka Rousseau	Salle Bleue 11:00 - 13:00 Facilitators: MCA Lompo Sandrine MCA Aka Irel Secretary: Dr Adjogou Amélé
CO2	Analysis of occupational risks in the construction industry: the case of Morey Salissou Souley Souleymane, Ali M.	
CO3	Knowledge, attitudes and practices of health personnel from ten CS Coms in the Famory Doumbia health district of Segou in relation to AES Diakite Lamine, Tangara Souleymane. Sangho Oumar. Fane Baba. Benzakour Issa.	
CO4	Study of the working conditions of embalmer in funeral homes in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, in 2024 Aka Irel, Breimi AAP, Guiegui CP, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Abenan N, N'cho Mpo, Kouassi YM.	
CO5	Descriptive study of workplace accidents among hospital staff at Abidjan University Hospitals from 2015 to 2021 Kouame André Arsène, Breimi AAP, Ouattara YM, N'guessan Linda Mélissa Affoué, Kra Anny	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	<i>AC, Guiegui CP, Aholia C, Kilanko G, Aka INA, Kouassi Y M, Wognin SB</i>	
CO6	Epidemiological study of fatal workplace accidents in Côte d'Ivoire reported to the National Social Security Fund from 2013 to 2024 Aka Irel, Kilanko GE, Breimi AAP, Aholia CV, N'cho MPO, Guiegui CP, Kouassi YM.	
CO7	Assessment of occupational risks among workers at a flour mill in Dakar Dia Sidy Akhmed, Mohamed AS, Soumare A, Ndoeye EO, Agbobli M, Gaye Fall MC, Diaby A, Soumah MM.	
CO8	Review of 2024 activities by the Ouagadougou Regional Directorate (DRO) of the Occupational Health Office (OST) Oueraogo Adama François, Sanon/Lompo M S, Traore I, Sougouri PB, Kabore L.	
CO9	Characteristics of workplace accidents reported to the Richard-Toll Social Security Fund (CSS) from 2018 to 2020 (Senegal) Bocar Baïla Diédhiou, Diatta AER, Mbodji PM, Ndiaye M.	
CO10	Workplace accidents in a metalworking company in Togo Dadjo Soukouna, Kamaga T, Agbobli YA	
CO11	Parkinson's disease and occupational exposure to solvents: results from the ESPri program, France Guiégui-Kouamé Chimène, Camille Carles C	
CO12	Phytosanitary practices in market gardening and their impact on the health of market gardeners in the Agbodji district (Bopa municipality, Benin) Sebo Vifan Eric Laurent Sèvimi Coffi	Laguna 1 11:00 – 13:00 Facilitators:

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CO13	Epidemiological profile of the effects of display screens on the health of users in the workplace in the city of Parakou in 2024 Mama Cissé Ibrahim, Koudandé O., Fanou D., Gounongbé ACF., Hinson AV., Ayélo P.	MCA Owona Jules MCA Mama Cissé Secrétaire : Dr Akinotcho Tarick
CO14	Prevalence and factors associated with musculoskeletal disorders among workers at the CHU-MEL in 2024 Hounzandji Dona Gilles Yannel, HINSON AV	
CO15	Occupational risks in a refinery in Pointe-Noire (Congo): analysis and prioritization Ebatetou Ataboho, Mantinou JM, Damba L, Tsimba M P.	
CO16	Occupational health and safety in the timber industry: The case of workers in an industrial zone in Gabon in 2024 Landimi Patrice	
CA1	Working conditions in a catering service at the Angré University Hospital in 2025 Guiégui-Kouamé Chimène, Aka I, Kouassi Y, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Tchicaya AF, Kouassi Y M, Wognin SB, Bonny JS.	ASSESSMENT OF POSTERS 11:00 – 13:00 Facilitators: MCA Birama Apho-Ly MA Guiégui Chimène Secretary: Dr Ayedoun Moussa
CA2	Study of the biological profile of workers exposed to chemicals in a gold mining company in Burkina Faso in 2024 Kouame André Arsène, Breimi AP, Ouattara YM, Aholia C, Kilanko G, Kra Anny AAC, N'guessan LMA, Ouedraogo S, Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Tchicaya AF, Kouassi YM, Wognin SB, Bonny JS.	
CA3	Studies of workplace accidents among workers suffering from hand injuries in the Gbêkê region of Côte d'Ivoire from 2019 to 2024	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	<i>Kra Anny Chantal, N'guessan LMA, Ouattara YM, Kouame AA B, Massa AE, Bremi AP, Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Tchicaya AF, Kouassi YM, Wognin SB</i>	
CA4	Assessment of occupational risks in a modern car garage in the city of Bamako <i>Sacko Idrissa, Bagayok TB</i>	
CA5	Epidemiological profile of healthcare workers in healthcare facilities in Cameroon: the case of Laquintine Hospital in Douala <i>Ntago Keumeugne Nathalie, Cheuffa TE, Njiengwe E.F, Mawafo KR, Owona MLJ, Wache TS, Balepna JY, Kamdem WJ, Ndom MS.</i>	

AFTERNOON

Sub-theme No.2: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention

CO17	Contribution of occupational doctors to reducing health-related absenteeism in healthcare facilities in Cameroon: the case of Laquintine Hospital in Douala <i>Ntago K.Nathalie</i> , Cheuffa T.Eliane, Njiengwe E.F, Mawafo K.R, Owona M.LJ, Wache T. So, Balepna J. Yves, Kamdem W. Josépine, Ndom M. Solange	Salle Bleue 16:00 - 17:30 Facilitators: MCA Lompo Sandrine MCA Mikponhoué Rose
CO18	Participatory screening for occupational risks in the sterilisation unit of the Niono Reference Health Centre (CSRéf) in 2024. <i>Diakite Lamine. Liman Cissé</i>	
CO19	Assessment of radiation protection in tertiary hospitals in Mali in 2024 <i>Diakite Lamine, Damango B, Kone AM, Konate M.</i>	secretary: Dr Azondékon Candide
CO20	Management of musculoskeletal disorders in hospitals: the case of CHUD-O in 2022	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	Kedote-Zanklan Lauréno YD	
CO21	The importance of regular annual check-ups Kedote-Zanklan Lauréno YD	
CO22	Perceptions and prevention of occupational risks in the artisanal mining sector: the case of the Bouda site (Burkina Faso) Bonkougou Sidbewindin Jérémie, Bonkougou KN, Ouedraogo OCV	
CO23	Stability and efficacy of chlorinated disinfectants in Beninese hospitals: challenges for infection prevention and control and antibiotic resistance Soclo Dansi Sènam Evelyne, Degbey CC, Kpozehouen A, Gaffan N, Agbokou AD, Tapha O, Saïzonou DE, Soclo HH, Bankolé HS.	
CO24	A case of a work-related accident involving physical assault Kedote-Zanklan Lauréno YD	
Sub-themes No.3-4 Socio-economic impacts of occupational risks, Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers (part 1)		
CO25	Experts faced with assessing the duration of incapacity for work: between false certificates and physician complacency Agbobli Yawo Apelété, Awumé E, Dadjo S, Mensah L, Akue AM, Adambounou A	
CO26	Diabetes and associated factors among workers in the agro-textile sector in Benin Adjobimey Mênonli, Mikponhoue R, Mama Cisse I, Hountohotegbe E, Ayelo P, Hinson A, Houinato D	Laguna1 16:00 - 17:30 Facilitators:

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CO27	Working environment as perceived by healthcare providers in the maternity ward of the Yalgado OUEDRAOGO University Hospital Centre Ouedraogo Adama François, Sanon/Lompo MS, Traore I, Bazemo TMR, Kabore SG	MCA Aka Irel MCA Adjobimey Mênonli Secrétaire : Dr Chodaton Sophie
CO28	Study of the effects of shift work on health: the case of healthcare staff at Abidjan University Hospital in 2024 Aka Irel, Breimi AAP, Guiegui CP, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Abenan N, N'cho MPO, Kouassi YM.	
CO29	Study of chronic diseases among hospital staff at Angré University Hospital Centre from 2019 to 2024 Kilanko GE, Aholia CV, Breimi AAP, Abenan N, N'cho MPO, Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Kouassi YM	
CO30	Epidemiological study of chronic diseases among workers at a banking institution in Abidjan. Guiegui-Kouame, Breimi AAP, Aka INA, Fofana EY, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Tchicaya F, Kouassi YM, Wognin SB, Bonny JS	
CO31	Assessment of cardiovascular risk factors within a company in the oil sector in Gabon in 2024 Patrice Landimi	
CO32	Factors associated with the risk of sleep apnoea syndrome in the workplace in Port-Gentil, Gabon Kengni Guy Léopold	
Sub-theme No.4: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers (part 2) and Other working conditions (Open communications)		
CO33	High blood pressure, other cardiovascular and occupational risk factors in an agricultural enterprise in Senegal	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	Sagna Asséga Sylvain , Hedeme SPE, Ndour MD, Fall MTA, Gueye MM, Beye SM	
CO34	Prevalence and factors associated with not returning to work after a stroke in two hospitals in the city of Douala Owona Manga Léon Jules , Magnerou AM, Kwandjo MM, Mapoure NY	Laguna 2 16:00 – 17:30 Facilitators:
CO35	Socio-professional profile of diabetic employees in a financial institution in Abidjan in 2023 Bremi Amoussan Amos Privat , Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Kouassi YM	MCA Owona Jules MCA Padonou Géraud Secrétaire : Dr
CO36	Overuse of Tramadol among road traffic drivers in Cotonou, Benin Tohon Gbèdolo Honesty , Adoukpe F, Koukponou C, Seto D, Segla H, Aguemon B, Ayelo P	Dassi Gbenou Joliannele
CO37	Assessment of thermal stress among motorcycle taxi drivers in Cotonou in 2017 Codjia Jean-Mannix , Lawin H.	
CO38	The doctor, between working conditions and criminal liability Agbobli YA , Awumé E, Dadjo S, Mensah L, Akue AM, Adambounou A	
CO39	Perpetrators and forms of violence against female sex workers in Mali: a qualitative study Birama Apho LY	
CO40	Epidemiological aspects of respiratory disorders among workers at a granite quarry in Ziniaré, Burkina Faso, in 2022. Ouindingoudi Benoît Singouinda , Guy Alain Ouédraogo, Mênouli Adjobimey, Antoine	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
Vikkey Hinson, Dofinihanou Dite Inessa Coulibaly.		
Sub-theme No.2: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention Evaluation of posted communications		
CA6	Commitment and leadership in occupational risk management <i>Kengni Guy Léopold</i>	ASSESSMENT OF POSTERS 16:00 – 16:30 Facilitators: MCA Damien Georgia MA Tohon Honesty secretary: Dr DEGBELO Marina
CA7	Assessment of hand hygiene implementation by healthcare providers at CNHU-PPC in 2025 <i>Damien Barikissou Georgia, Toffohossou EN</i>	
CA8	The practice of safety briefings in mining companies: Knowledge, attitudes and practices among workers on the Boto project in Senegal <i>Sagna Asséga Sylvain, Ndour MD, Semite BM</i>	
CA9	Work stoppages for medical reasons and quality of life at work: Survey of workers at the Libreville University Hospital in Gabon. <i>Ekomy Hervé M, Nguema Enzegne F L, Mintsa T, Landimi P, Poudy N, Nkoghe D, Sima O C, Ndiaye M, Boguikouma JB</i>	
CA10	Caring for healthcare workers: development of an occupational health and safety program for healthcare workers in Togo <i>Kevi Kokou Silvére, Dadjo S, Agbobli YA, Aziabou K, Bassa KA, Atitche K, Adom A O. Ivanov I D , Di euboue J , Ekouévi K D</i>	
CA11	Sex workers at the Bouda artisanal gold mining site (Burkina Faso): between exposure to infectious risks and coping mechanisms. <i>Bonkougou Sidbewindin Jeremi, Bonkougou KN, Ouedraogo BCV</i>	
Sub-theme No.4: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers. Evaluation of posted communications		

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CA12	Study of working conditions in a metallurgy company in Abidjan in 2024 Abenan Nelly , Aholia CV , Kilanko GE , Kouamé AAB , Breimi AAP , Guiegui CP , Aka INA , Ouattara YM , Kra AAC , N'guessan LMA , Kouassi YM	
CA13	Study of obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome among lorry drivers working for a freight transport company in Côte d'Ivoire in 2024 Kilanko GE , Aholia CV, Breimi AAP, Guiegui CP, Abenan NAE, N'cho MPO, Aka INA, Kouassi YM	ASSESSMENT OF POSTERS 16:00 – 16:30 Facilitators:
CA14	Epidemiological study of respiratory symptoms among workers at a textile fibre manufacturing company in Banfora (Burkina Faso) in 2023 Aholia CV , Compaoré A, Aka INA, Kilanko GE, Breimi AAP, Abenan N, N'cho MPO, Guiegui CP, Kouassi YM.	MCA Mama Cissé Ibrahim MA Diédhiou Bocar Baïla, secretary: Dr Dochamou Cyriaque
CA15	Forensic study of occupational respiratory diseases at the Bouaké University Hospital Centre in Côte d'Ivoire Ouattara Ya Madina , Kouamé AAB, Abenan N, N'guessan LMNA, Kra ACC, Kouadio Kouassi J, Wognin SB	
CA16	Prevalence and associated factors of high blood pressure in the workplace in Africa: a systematic review and meta-analysis Bana-Ewai Essossimna , Nambiema A, Wasungu D B, Têê NW, Dah Ter Tiero E, N'Dri KM, Agbobli Y A, Issifou Yaya	
CA17	Treatment of high blood pressure in the workplace: can we control the numbers in 3 months? Asséga Sylvain Sagna , Diarra I, Beye SM, Ndour MD, Gueye MM, Fall MTA	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
Day Three: Wednesday, 3 December 2025		

AFTERNOON

Sub-theme No.5: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP (ST5)		
CO41	Study of low back pain among workers using display screens at a mobile phone company in Abidjan in 2024 <i>Ouattara Ya Madina, Brémi AAP, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Aka INA, Guiegui CP, N'guessan LMA, Kra AAC, Kouamé AAB, Abenan N, Kouamé MJB, Kouassi YMa.</i>	Laguna 1 14:30 – 15:30 Facilitators: MCA Mikponhoué Rose MCA Dangbèmè Patice secretary: Dr Hibrahim Hassan
CO42	Epidemiological study of musculoskeletal disorders among primary school teachers in 2025 in Ivory Coast: the case of teachers from the Port-Bouët Primary Education Inspectorate (IEP) <i>Aholia CV, Breimi AAP, Guiegui CP, Kilanko GE, Abenan N, N'cho MPO, Aka INA, Kouassi YM.</i>	
CO43	Prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders among staff at the Suru-Léré Regional University Hospital Centre in 2025 <i>Mikponhoué Rose, Metcho A, Adjobimey M, Mama Cissé I, Gounongbé F, Hinson AV, Ayélo P</i>	
CO44	Prevalence and factors associated with rotator cuff syndrome among midwives, obstetricians	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	and auxiliary birth attendants in the city of Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso, in 2024. <i>N'Guessan Linda Mélissa Affoué,</i> <i>Namoulniara DC, Ouattara YM, Kouamé AB,</i> <i>Bremi Amoussan AP, Aka INA, Tchikaya AF,</i> <i>Wognin SB, Bonny JS</i>	
CO45	Musculoskeletal disorders in the informal economy: the case of motorcycle taxi drivers in the Bamako District in Mali. <i>Aziabou Koami Afantchao</i>	
CO46	Bilateral hearing loss among construction workers in Benin in 2023 <i>Adjobimey Mênouli,</i> <i>Mikponhoue R, Mama Cissé I Hountohotegbe E , Hinson A, Ayelo P, Degbey C</i>	
CO47	Assessment of noise exposure among machine operators at an open-pit gold mine in Côte d'Ivoire in 2022. <i>N'Guessan Linda Melissa Affoué,</i> <i>N'Dri A, KRA AAC, Abenan NEA, Guiegui CP, Kilanko GAC, Kouassi YM, Bonny JS</i>	Laguna 2 14:30 – 15:30 Facilitators:
CO48	Prevalence and factors associated with low back pain among bus drivers at a public transport company in Ouagadougou in 2024 <i>Remi Amoussan Amos Privat,</i> <i>Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Ouedraogo L, Aholia CV, Kilanko G E, Kouassi YM</i>	MCA Lawson Afouda Sonia MCA Adjobimey Mênouli

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CO49	Prevalence and factors associated with low back pain among healthcare workers in Togo <i>Atitche Komlan, Agbenyowu N, Kevi K, Simpore I</i>	Secretary: Dr Kedote Zancan Lauren
CO50	Occupational risk factors for hypersensitivity to latex gloves among healthcare professionals in Ouagadougou <i>Sanon-Lompo Marthe Sandrine; Traore I; Ouédraogo AF; Ouédraogo A</i>	

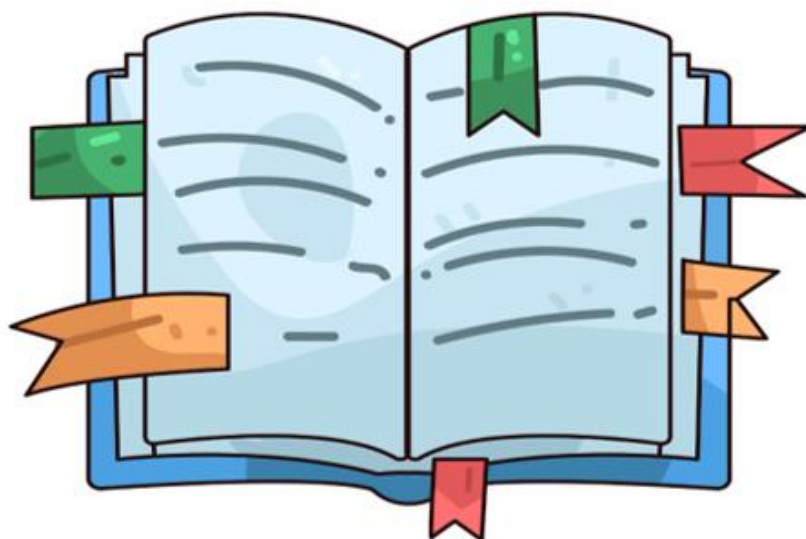
AFTERNOON

Sub-theme No.6: Stress and other mental health issues affecting workers in the workplace, STRPS (Part 1)		
CO51	Characteristics of violence among bank workers in Burkina Faso <i>Traore Issa , Kabore M, Sanon/Lompo MS , Ouedraogo AF</i>	Laguna 1 16:00 – 17:30
CO52	Working conditions and occupational stress among midwives in Douala. <i>Owona Manga Léon Jules, Balana AM, Bilounga Ndongo C, Ngomba A</i>	Facilitators: MCA Owona Manga Léon Jules Dr Lawin Hervé
CO53	Psychological distress among healthcare workers in Douala. <i>Owona Manga Léon Jules, Eyoun C, Bi, Djietcheu TM , Ndiaye M</i>	
CO54	Study of burnout among healthcare workers in the Kloto health district in Togo. <i>Kevi Kokou Silvére, Akossou K, Améga E, Dadjo Soukouna, Agbobli YA, Aziabou K, Ekouevi KD</i>	
CO55	Study of the quality of life at work among hospital staff at the Angre University Hospital in 2025	secretary: Dr Koukponou Césaire

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
	Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Breimi AAP, Abenan NA, Guiegui CP, N'cho MPO, Aka INA, Kouassi YM.	
CO56	Assessment of job satisfaction among hospital interns in medicine in Côte d'Ivoire in 2024 Breimi Amoussan Amos Privat, Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Aholia CV, Kilanko GE, Kouassi YM	
CO57	Prevalence and factors associated with stress among healthcare professionals in hospitals in the Parakou-N'Dali health zone (Benin) in 2023 Mama Cissé Ibrahim, Koudandé O, Fanou D, Gounongbé ACF, Hinson AV, Ayélo P	
Sub-theme No.6: Stress and other mental health issues affecting workers in the workplace, STRPS (Part 2)		
CO58	Occupational stress among midwives in four referral maternity hospitals in Togo Dadjo Soukouna, Kamaga T, Ajavon D	
CO59	Prevalence of burnout among primary school staff in Bobo-Dioulasso Traore Issa, Sanon/Lompo MS, Kabore M, Ouedraogo AF	Laguna 2 16:00 – 17:30
CO60	Prevalence of stress among secondary and higher education teachers in Cotonou in 2025 Mikponhoué Rose, Afouda F, Adjobimey M, Mama Cissé I, Gounongbé F, Hinson AV, Ayélo P	Facilitators: MCA Lompo Sandrine MCA Padonou Géraud
CO61	Prevalence and factors associated with burnout among healthcare workers at the Niamey General Reference Hospital Abdoulaye Moumouni Seydou, Hinson A, Adjobimey M	Secretary:

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CO62	Prevalence and impact of COVID-19 in an oil company in Congo-Brazzaville: a cross-sectional study <i>Ebatetou Ataboho Ebenguela, Kokolo JG, Bakala KJ, Martinou JM, Pambou B</i>	Dr Kounouhehou Nasser
CO63	Management of sickness absence in a Cameroonian brewery in 2024: overview and analysis of indicators. <i>Wache Sophie, Ntago Nathalie, Cheuffa Eliane, Kuessu Béatrice, Nkweleko Michel</i>	
CO64	Overview of traditional woodworking in the informal sector in the city of Douala <i>Kom- S. Tayou Beatrice</i>	
Sub-themes No.5 and 6: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, Evaluation of poster presentations		
CA18	Assessment of stress among staff working with refugees and asylum seekers in Dakar <i>Dia Sidy Akhmed, Mohamed AS, Ndoeye EO, Agbobli YA, Dieng NB</i>	ASSESSMENT OF POSTERS 16:00- 16:30
CA19	Prevalence of psychosocial risks among office workers at an oil company in Gabon <i>Makosso Laurent, Ekomy Hervé, Nguema Franck</i>	Facilitators: MCA Assanhoun Gabin MA Agbobli Yawo Apéléte
CA20	Process for establishing a workplace mental health program for workers in Togo <i>Kevi Kokou Silvère, Amega E , Akossou K, Dadjo S, Agbobli, Aziabou K, Bassa KA, Atitche K, Adom AO Ivanov ID , Dieuboue J , Ekouevi KD</i>	Secretary: Dr Logbo Sena
CA21	Deafness affecting a miller in a cement manufacturing company <i>N'Guessan Linda Melissa Affoué, Guiegui CP, Aka INA, Wognin SB, Kouassi YM, Tchicaya AF, Bonny JS</i>	

Codes	Presentations	Room / Time / Facilitation
CA22	The sound environment in call centres in Cameroon: a permanent source of psychosocial risk revealed by the Gabo assessment Cheuffa Tepou E , Wache Tamo , Nouthé Djubgang J., Kweleko M	



Book of Abstracts

**SUB-THEME NO 1:
OVERVIEW OF
OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN
THE PRIMARY AND
SECONDARY SECTORS**



ORAL PRESENTATIONS

CO1	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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ANALYSIS OF PESTICIDE RESIDUES IN VEGETABLES IN COTONOU AND EVALUATION OF THE KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF CONSUMERS AND MARKET GARDENERS.

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Introduction: Pesticide residues in vegetables are a major public health problem, particularly in Benin, where no national monitoring program exists. Food safety and human health are thus at risk, making it necessary to assess contamination and the behaviour of the actors involved. The objective of the study was to analyse pesticide residues in cabbages produced in targeted areas and to assess the knowledge, attitudes and practices (KAP) of consumers and market gardeners.

Methods: This is a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study conducted from 15 December 2024 to 15 January 2025. Forty-five cabbage leaf samples were collected and 403 consumers were interviewed, supplemented by two focus groups of market gardeners. Residues were extracted using the QuEChERS method and analysed by HPLC. Residue data were processed using univariate analysis and ANOVA testing, and the KAP survey was analysed using R software.

Findings: Frequent exceedances of maximum residue limits (MRLs) were observed for acetamiprid, lambda-cyhalothrin and emamectin benzoate, especially in Houéyiho. Among consumers, 75.99% had low knowledge levels, and their attitudes and practices were also poor (73.02% and 79.46%). Market gardeners had a good general knowledge of pesticides but remained poorly informed about the persistence of residues after harvest. Their practices were generally inadequate, with non-compliance with pre-harvest intervals, poor packaging management and excessive use of products.

Conclusion: The study reveals a worrying level of pesticide contamination in cabbages, particularly in Houéyiho, and a lack of awareness among consumers and market gardeners, highlighting the need for education and monitoring programs.

Keywords: Benin, Public health, One Health, Pesticide residues, CAP

CO2	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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ANALYSIS OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR FROM 20 JUNE TO 20 SEPTEMBER 2025: THE CASE OF THE MOREY COMPANY

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Introduction: The construction and public works sector is also one of the most exposed sectors due to the nature of the work and the diversity of activities. In Niger in 2023, there were 132 workplace accidents in the construction and public works sector, including 8 fatalities. The objective of this study is to analyse occupational risks among workers in a construction and public works company.

Methods: This is a descriptive, cross-sectional, non-probabilistic and exhaustive study conducted from 20 June to 20 September 2025 involving 101 workers. The data were analysed using Epi Info 7 and Excel software

Findings: The population is young (44.55% are aged 25–34 and all are male). Mustapha et al. (2022) in Ghana reported that 44.2% of construction workers belonged to this age group; 46.53% had secondary education and 94.06% had temporary employment contracts, which increased their vulnerability to occupational hazards. In addition, physical hazards were predominant, particularly heat (87.13%). The ILO (2024) estimates that 92.9% of the workforce in Africa was exposed to extreme heat levels, followed by chemical risks associated with handling cement (46.53%) and biological and psychosocial risks (73.27%) associated with long working hours and deadline pressure. Our results are significantly different from those of Mustapha et al in Ghana, who reported a rate of 52.9%. In our study, 18.81% reported having had an accident on the construction site. These results are slightly higher than those of Zatout (2014) in Algeria, who reported a rate of 15.1%

Conclusion: This study highlights the need to create a company or inter-company medical service to better control occupational risks in the construction industry.

Keywords: Occupational risks, construction and public works, company and inter-company medical service.

CO3	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN TEN CSCOMs IN THE FAMORY DOUMBIA HEALTH DISTRICT OF SEGOU WITH REGARD TO AES

Lamine DIAKITE¹, Souleyame TANGARA², Mahamadou KONE³, Baba FANE⁴, Issa BENZAKOUR⁵, Liman CISSE⁶, Boukary DAMANGO⁷, Mariam KOUMARE⁸, Oumar SANGHO⁹.

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Introduction: Blood exposure accidents (BEAs) pose a risk to healthcare professionals in various healthcare facilities due to the risk of infection. The aim of our study was to assess the frequency of BEAs, staff knowledge and risk factors.

Methods: This was a mixed study conducted as a cross-sectional analysis in ten (10) Cscoms in the Famory DOUMBIA health district in the Ségou region from 1 May 2024 to 31 April 2025, with a two-month survey period.

Findings: We collected data from 128 individuals, 70.3% of whom were women. The median age was 32, with extremes ranging from 17 to 55. The most represented categories of healthcare workers were nurses, followed by midwives, accounting for 46.1% and 29.7% respectively. Health workers with at least one year of seniority were the most affected, at 28.9%. 37.5% of staff had been victims of AES and 18% of them had been exposed to biological fluids at least once. This exposure occurred in 31.2% of subjects with less than 10 years of service. 25.8% of staff did not report their accident; 8.6% reported it within 48 hours. 84.4% were aware of the possibility of infection transmission through AES. 51.5% did not report their accident due to lack of time. 94.5% of staff cited gloves as the most commonly used protective equipment.

Conclusion: Despite awareness of the risk of AES, the behaviours adopted do not help to minimise this risk. The national OHS policy must be implemented.

Keywords: Cscom - AES - Health district - FD de Ségou – Mali

CO4	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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STUDY OF THE WORKING CONDITIONS OF EMBALMERS IN FUNERAL HOMES IN ABIDJAN (IVORY COAST) IN 2024

Irel Narcisse Arnaud AKA, Amoussan Amos Priva BREMI, Chimene Pulcherie GUIEGUI-KOUAMÉ, Cyriaque Valencia AHOLIA, Grace Ester KILANKO, Nelly ABENAN, Prince N'CHO, Yao Mathias KOUASSI.

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Introduction: Thanatopraxy is a method of delaying the decomposition of corpses for as long as possible using embalming techniques that require the use of several chemicals, thus exposing embalmer to various occupational hazards. Our study aimed to identify and assess the hazards present in funeral homes in Abidjan and to analyse existing preventive measures.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional, descriptive observational study of chemical and physical hazards present in funeral homes in Abidjan.

Findings: The study population had an average age of 42.3 years and was predominantly male (85.4%). Formaldehyde concentrations measured ranged from 0.01 to 0.66 ppm. Ambient measurements found humidity levels above 70% in 7 out of 9 sites, with the highest level at Yopougon University Hospital (84%). The highest temperatures observed were above 30°C, at Treichville University Hospital, HMA and headquarters. The measured light level ranged from 53.9 lux (Adjamé General Hospital) to 170 lux (Abidjan Military Hospital). With regard to preventive measures, there was no gas extraction system and the embalmer's protective equipment consisted of latex gloves and surgical masks.

Conclusion: Embalmers are exposed to several categories of occupational hazards, including chemical hazards related to exposure to formaldehyde, whose concentrations measured at the various sites studied ranged from 0.01 to 0.66 ppm. These findings highlight the need to use alternatives to formaldehyde.

Keywords: Embalmers, chemical hazards, physical hazards, funeral homes, Abidjan

CO5	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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DESCRIPTIVE STUDY OF WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS AMONG HOSPITAL STAFF AT THE ABIDJAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL FROM 2015 TO 2021

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Affiliations: 1. Department of Public Health and Related Specialities. Faculty of Medical Sciences, Alassane Ouattara University, Bouaké – Ivory Coast, 2. Department of Public Health and Specialities. Faculty of Medical Sciences, Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, Abidjan – Côte d'Ivoire

Introduction: Accidents at work are a common risk in the workplace. The overall objective of this study was to describe accidents at work among hospital staff in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Methods: A retrospective descriptive study was conducted over 10 months (from 1 March to 31 December 2022) on the medical records of work-related accidents involving hospital staff at the Abidjan University Hospitals from 2015 to 2021. The records were recruited using exhaustive sampling.

Findings: A total of 427 occupational accidents were recorded over seven years, of which 230 cases (53.9%) occurred at Treichville University Hospital, 140 cases (32.6%) at Cocody University Hospital and 57 cases (13.5%) at Angré University Hospital. In 91.1% of cases, the accidents involved exposure to blood (AES). The other workplace accidents were commuting accidents (2.8%) and falls on the same level, burns and physical violence, which accounted for 6.1% of workplace accidents. A predominance of women (61.8%) was observed. More than half of the victims (62.3%) were in the 30-39 age group. The study population consisted mainly of nurses (28.6%) and doctors (28.3%). The highest proportion of workers who were victims of accidents at work were those with less than five years' seniority (72.4%). The victims came mainly from medical departments (26.5%) and emergency departments (24.9%). The main circumstances in which the accidents occurred were IM, SC and IV injections; cleaning of premises; and incisions during surgical procedures, in 16.4%, 14.5% and 13.3% of cases respectively. Most victims of AES had indeterminate HIV serology (77.1%). Almost all injuries (99.8%) healed. In 99.8% of cases, the accidents were not reported.

Conclusion: Workplace accidents in hospitals are common and dominated by needlestick injuries, with a major risk of accidental exposure to HIV and hepatitis B and C viruses. It is therefore necessary to implement ongoing information and training initiatives on workplace accidents for all hospital staff at university hospitals, as well as strategies to promote and facilitate access to HBV vaccination.

Keywords: Occupational accident, Healthcare personnel, Hospital sector.

CO6	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF FATAL WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE REPORTED TO THE NATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY FUND FROM 2013 TO 2024

Irel Narcisse Arnaud AKA, Grace Esther KILANKO, Amoussan Amos Privat BREMI, Cyriaque Valencia AHOLIA, Prince N'CHO, Chimène Pulchérie GUIEGUI-KOUAMÉ, Yao Mathias KOUASSI

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Introduction: Fatal occupational accidents are a serious occupational health issue and pose critical public health problems with social and economic implications. The aim of this study was to examine the epidemiological aspects of fatal occupational accidents in Côte d'Ivoire reported to the CNPS from 2013 to 2024.

Methods: This was a retrospective, cross-sectional, descriptive study of the files of victims of fatal workplace accidents reported to the IPS CNPS from 2013 to 2024. Data were collected using a survey form providing information on the socio-professional data of the victims of fatal workplace accidents and the characteristics of the accidents.

Findings: 158 ATMs meeting the inclusion criteria were collected. The average age of the victims was 43.6 years $\pm$ 10.5. They were predominantly male (94.3%) with a sex ratio of 17.5% and comprised of the working class (69.0%). The service, retail and food industries were the most affected, accounting for 31.0% of cases. Accidents at work were the most common, accounting for 53.2% of cases, and occurred more frequently during the day (65.8%). Vehicles were the main material agents involved (60.8%) and caused multiple injuries in 56.3% of cases. In the majority of cases, the injuries were multiple (57.0%). This reflects the violence of the mechanisms involved, particularly in accidents involving vehicles, where the physical impact is often complex and diffuse. These figures also highlight the importance of strengthening national road safety policy as part of occupational health and safety programs.

Conclusion: This study has enabled us to describe the characteristics of fatal workplace accidents and the profiles of victims with a view to developing sustainable measures to prevent fatal workplace accidents. The main recommendations of this study are to produce an annual statistical report on fatal workplace accidents by sector, region and occupation. The next step is to analyse the reported fatal workplace accidents. Then, to ensure awareness and participation of workers in safety training and occupational risk prevention sessions.

Keywords: Epidemiology - fatal accidents at work - CNPS - Côte d'Ivoire.

C07	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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ASSESSMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS AMONG WORKERS AT A MILL IN DAKAR

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Introduction: The milling sector is booming in Africa. Occupational risks are numerous and studies in this field are very rare. The objective of our work was to identify and assess occupational risks in a large, leading flour mill in Dakar (Senegal).

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted over a period of one month. All staff in the production unit (wheat cleaning unit, mill and warehouse) and maintenance and servicing staff were included. Data were collected through site visits and a self-administered questionnaire covering several areas (sociodemographic aspects, working conditions, exposure to stress, internal violence and risk assessment). Data were entered and analysed using Epi-Info 3.5.4 and Microsoft Excel 2010 software.

Findings: Our study population (n = 55) was exclusively male, with an average age of 40.67 ± 7.92 years and an average length of service of 6.77 ± 4.71 years. Workers aged between 36 and 40 years were the most represented (27.27%). Dust and noise affected all positions and all staff. The risk of falls existed for all staff and positions visited. Forty-four agents (80%) performed manual handling. The risk of fire and explosion existed throughout the production unit. Only 29.09% of employees were familiar with and understood the evacuation plan. Stress was mentioned by 34 employees (61.82%).

Conclusion: The flour industry is a high-risk workplace (simultaneous presence of several occupational hazards and dangerous situations). In this high-risk environment, prevention strategies, focused primarily on primary prevention, must be considered.

Keywords: Milling, Occupational hazards, Prevention, Dakar.

CO8	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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REPORT ON THE 2024 ACTIVITIES OF THE OUAGADOUGOU REGIONAL DIRECTORATE (DRO) OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OFFICE (OST)

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Introduction: The Occupational Health Office is the structure set up to ensure occupational health activities in Burkina Faso. It carries out its activities through its regional offices, including the one in Ouagadougou. The objective was to review the occupational health activities carried out by the OST regional office in Ouagadougou in 2024.

Method: This is a compilation of statistics from the various occupational health zones and services of the DRO, which were sent to the DRO's planning department.

Findings: Out of 945 affiliated companies, 758 companies were scheduled, representing a scheduling rate of 95%. Seven hundred and fifty-eight companies benefited from workplace visits and information-education-communication sessions, representing a coverage rate of 80%. For medical examinations, 36,015 workers were seen, representing a participation rate of 78%. Seven hundred and forty-five companies responded, representing a participation rate of 81%. The number of consultations received in occupational health services was 29,856. Two hundred and sixty-one cases of occupational hazards were recorded. Nineteen thousand three hundred and fifty-three eye examinations, 13,615 threshold audiometric tests and 8,603 spirometry tests were carried out. In the public sector, the participation rate in annual medical examinations was low.

Conclusion: The results of occupational health activities carried out at the Ouagadougou Regional Directorate of the OST in 2024 are acceptable. Efforts and advocacy must be made on both sides to achieve significant improvement and participation by all workers in the private and public sectors in these occupational health activities.

Keywords: Assessment, activities, occupational health, DRO, OST.

CO9	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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CHARACTERISTICS OF WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS REPORTED TO THE RICHARD-TOLL SOCIAL SECURITY FUND (CSS) FROM 2018 TO 2020 (SENEGAL)

Bocar Baïla Diédhiou, AER Diatta, PM Mbodji, Mor Ndiaye

Affiliation: UCAD

Introduction: ATs are a public health issue worldwide. The objective of this study was to assess the characteristics of ATs reported to the Richard-Toll CSS in Senegal.

Methods: This was a retrospective and descriptive study of work-related accidents reported to the Richard-Toll Social Security Agency between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2020. Data were collected from the agency's electronic databases.

Findings: A total of 1,071 workplace accidents were recorded. Among the victims, 99.6% were male. The average age of the victims was 37.1 years. Agricultural workers and labourers were affected in 95.5% of cases. Cane cutters were heavily affected by workplace accidents, accounting for 85.1% of cases. Accidents on site accounted for 95% of cases. Clinically, the injuries mainly consisted of wounds (83.3%). They were mainly located on the lower limbs (38.8%), hands (20.9%) and eyes (10.2%). The most common cause of accidents was the machete (48.5%). Cutting cane was the most frequently reported mechanism of accidents (74.5%). The injuries sustained were minor in 98.2% of cases. The duration of sick leave did not exceed 30 days in 98.2% of cases. The Senegalese sugar company was the main reporter of accidents at work (99%). Accidents occurred during the harvest season (December to May) in 84.4% of cases. A downward trend in accidents at work was observed during the three years of our study.

Conclusion: This study shows the need to conduct studies within the Senegalese sugar company in order to better understand accidents at work, with the aim of strengthening the prevention programs already in place.

Keywords: Accident at work, sugar industry.

C010	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS IN A METALLURGICAL COMPANY IN TOGO IN 2023

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Introduction: An occupational accident, regardless of its cause, is an accident that occurs to a worker as a result of or during work, whether or not it is their fault. The frequency and severity of workplace accidents make them a real occupational health and public health problem. Metallurgy is one of the sectors most affected. The objective was to describe the epidemiological profile of workplace accidents that occurred in a metallurgical company.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted between January and September 2023. All workplace accidents recorded in the accident register were included in the study. Data was collected using an anonymous survey form. The questionnaire was completed by the same investigator. The data was analysed using Epi Info 7.2.2.6 software.

Findings: The majority of victims of occupational accidents were male (95.2%). The average age of workers was 32.74 years, with extremes of 18 and 60 years. The most affected age group was 28-33 years, accounting for 31.5%. The most accident-prone workstations were the steel melting shop (35.9%), the cooling bed (19.5%) and the melting furnace (14.3%). Accidents on the same level predominated (92.8%), while commuting accidents accounted for 7.2%. Serious accidents were found in 10.8% of cases. Injuries mainly affected the upper limbs (41.8%) and lower limbs (36.7%). These were mainly wounds (48.6%) and burns (25.1%).

Conclusion: Accidents at work are a reality in the metallurgy sector. The implementation of preventive measures will reduce the consequences of accidents at work for workers, companies and society.

Keywords: accident at work, prevention, metallurgy, Togo.

C011	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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PARKINSON'S DISEASE AND OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO SOLVENTS: RESULTS OF THE ESPRI PROGRAM 2004-2017, FRANCE

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Introduction: Parkinson's disease is the second most common chronic neurovegetative disorder after Alzheimer's disease. The current literature remains controversial regarding the link between solvents and Parkinson's disease. The objective of this study was to evaluate the association between Parkinson's disease and occupational exposure to solvents among retired craftsmen using job-exposure matrices.

Methods: In a population from the French ESPri cohort (N = 7,458), cases of Parkinson's disease were identified by cross-referencing with the National Health Data System (SNDS). Using four job-exposure matrices (JEMs) developed as part of the French Matgéné program, we assessed exposure to trichloroethylene, white spirit and all chlorinated and petroleum solvents. Odds ratios (OR) and their 95% confidence intervals (CI) were estimated using logistic regression, adjusting for confounding factors.

Findings: We identified 116 cases of Parkinson's disease (1.5%). In multivariate analyses, a non-significant association was observed between Parkinson's disease and exposure to petroleum solvents (OR 1.15, 95% CI [0.71-1.85]) and white spirit (OR 1.3, 95% CI [0.81-2.09]), unlike the class of chlorinated solvents (OR 0.84, 95% CI [0.52-1.36]) and trichloroethylene (OR 0.80, 95% CI [0.50-1.30]). Our results confirm the mixed relationship between Parkinson's disease and exposure to solvents.

Conclusion: Further epidemiological studies are needed to continue the research.

Keywords: Parkinson's disease, solvents, trichloroethylene, white spirit, job-exposure matrix.

C012	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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PHYTOSANITARY PRACTICES IN VEGETABLE PRODUCTION AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE HEALTH OF VEGETABLE GROWERS IN THE DISTRICT OF AGBODJI (COMMUNE OF BOPA, BENIN)

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Introduction: The study focuses on analysing the phytosanitary practices of market gardeners and the impact of these practices on health in the Agbodji district (Bopa municipality). It covered all villages in the district.

Methods: The methodological approach used to conduct the study was traditional: documentary research, field surveys and statistical data processing. The survey was conducted on 118 market gardeners. In addition to descriptive statistics, Chi-square tests were used to verify the relationships between phytosanitary practices and the health problems reported by market gardeners.

Findings: All the market gardeners surveyed (100%) admit that the use of pesticides reduces losses due to pests and ensures a good yield. However, the decision to carry out phytosanitary treatments and the timing of treatment differ from one market gardener to another. Methods of use are not controlled.

Conclusion: treatment frequencies. They are not convinced of the direct risks they face and therefore rarely protect themselves. All of this has a serious impact on their health.

Keywords: Bopa, market gardening, phytosanitary treatments, health.

C013	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF THE EFFECTS OF DISPLAY SCREENS ON THE HEALTH OF USERS IN THE WORKPLACE IN THE CITY OF PARAKOU IN 2024

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Introduction: Prolonged use of display screens at work has led to the emergence of specific occupational risks. This study aimed to assess the impact of display screens on the health of workers in Parakou (Benin).

Methods: This is a cross-sectional, descriptive and analytical study with prospective data collection, conducted from 1 June to 30 July 2024. Exhaustive sampling was used to select professionals exposed to screens. Data were collected using questionnaires during interviews and then analysed statistically using MedCalc and R. Bivariate and multivariate analyses were performed to identify factors associated with occupational risks.

Findings: MSDs were the most common (96.72%), followed by visual disorders (76.23%), stress (25.41%) and anxiety (17.21%). A history of MSDs significantly increased the risk of recurrence of new MSDs (OR = 1.03; $p = 0.0455$). Frequent use of the chair backrest reduced the risk of MSDs (OR = 0.94; $p = 0.0455$). Participants with a screen lower than eye level were 1.28 times more likely to experience visual disturbances (95% CI: 1.08–1.51; $p = 0.0042$). The presence of glare on the screen was significantly associated with visual disturbances. Workers experiencing frequent glare had a 3.00-fold increase in risk (95% CI: 1.46–6.13; $p = 0.0026$), while occasional glare also increased this risk (OR = 2.32, 95% CI: 1.12–4.79; $p = 0.0228$).

Conclusion: Display screens have a negative impact on users' health. An ergonomic approach and awareness policies including break management are essential to reduce the negative health impacts of screens.

Keywords: Display screens, occupational health, MSDs, stress.

C014	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS AMONG WORKERS AT THE CHU-MEL IN 2024

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Introduction: Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are conditions related to musculoskeletal overuse, which, due to their impact on workers and their professional performance, represent a major public health problem. The objective was to study the prevalence and factors associated with musculoskeletal disorders among CHU-MEL workers in 2024.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study with an analytical focus, based on data collected between 1 and 30 September 2024 from workers at the Centre Hospitalo-Universitaire de la Mère et de l'Enfant Lagune (CHU-MEL). Sampling was non-probabilistic by quota. The data collected were analysed using R software. In multivariate analysis, logistic regression was performed to identify associated factors. An odds ratio with a 95% confidence interval was calculated. A $p \leq 0.05$ was considered statistically significant.

Findings: Following our study, 80.21% of the workers surveyed suffered from work-related musculoskeletal disorders. In terms of the areas affected, the thoracolumbar spine ranked first with a prevalence of 70.76%, followed by the cervical spine with 38.01%; the shoulders with 31.58%; the knee with 26.90%; the ankle with 25.73%; the elbow with 16.96%; and finally the wrist and hand with 12.28%. The main risk factors associated with MSDs among the workers surveyed during the study were: length of service at CHU-MEL ($p=0.012$; OR=2.43) and occupational stress ($p=0.033$; OR=2.19).

Conclusion: The high prevalence of MSDs found in our study population shows that it is necessary to strengthen preventive measures and improve working conditions for hospital workers.

Keywords: Musculoskeletal disorders, prevalence, workers, hospital environment, CHU-MEL.

C015	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN A REFINERY IN POINTE-NOIRE (CONGO): ANALYSIS AND PRIORITISATION

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Introduction: Oil refining involves a combination of physical, chemical, organisational and ergonomic exposures that can lead to preventable morbidity. Our study aimed to characterise and prioritise occupational risks at a refinery in Pointe-Noire (Congo).

Methods: From October 2024 to August 2025, we conducted a cross-sectional assessment covering the entire Pointe-Noire refinery site in Congo. Tasks and hazards were mapped by homogeneous exposure groups and then rated using a 'frequency × severity' matrix (scales 1–5) to estimate gross criticality and, in light of the controls in place, residual criticality. Multidisciplinary validation ensured consistency, and descriptive analyses summarised the distribution of criticalities, profiles by unit/job and priority scenarios.

Findings: Exposure was found to be heterogeneous across work units and tasks, with a predominance of moderate to high criticalities. The priority scenarios concerned thermal stress, fire and explosion events, entry into confined spaces and exposure to BTEX, with benzene playing a key role, while co-exposure to noise and solvents increased the risk. The levels of control observed remained mostly intermediate, indicating room for improvement through engineering controls and substitution.

Conclusion: The occupational risk assessment produced an operational map and transparent prioritisation. The transition to higher-level controls, supported by a residual risk dashboard, should reduce risk, document the effectiveness of measures and strengthen operational resilience.

Keywords: Occupational risk assessment; refining, hydrocarbons, multiple exposures, Congo-Brazzaville.

C016	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE WOOD INDUSTRY: THE CASE OF WORKERS IN AN INDUSTRIAL AREA OF GABON IN 2024

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Introduction: Industrial wood processing, which is an important pillar of the Gabonese economy, exposes workers to numerous occupational hazards. Despite the importance of this sector, little data exists on working conditions and preventive measures. The aim of this study was therefore to identify the main hazards encountered and the preventive measures in place in an industrial wood processing area.

Methods: A cross-sectional, descriptive study was conducted from 3 June to 31 July 2024 in fourteen randomly selected companies. The survey covered 530 permanent workers. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire comprising six sections: sociodemographic characteristics, medical history, lifestyle habits, hazards encountered, symptoms and preventive measures. Statistical analyses were performed using Epi Info 7.2.6.6 software.

Findings: The study population consisted of 72.6% men (sex ratio M/F = 2.6), with a mean age of 36 ± 7.3 years, and was predominantly made up of manual workers (94.3%). The most common medical histories were ENT (73.4%), skin (72%) and lung (53.9%) problems. The main hazards reported were exposure to wood dust (99.6%), noise (97.9%), repetitive movements (99.6%) and dangerous machinery (99.1%). Personal protective equipment was insufficiently used. Only 11.7% of workers had undergone a medical examination upon recruitment.

Conclusion: This study reveals precarious working conditions and high exposure to occupational risks in the wood sector. Strengthening preventive measures, safety training and the effective implementation of occupational health measures are essential to protect workers' health.

Keywords: Occupational risks, Wood industry, Gabon.

**POSTER
PRESENTATIONS**

CA1	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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WORKING CONDITIONS IN A CATERING SERVICE AT THE ANGRE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN 2025.

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Introduction: Hospital catering exposes workers to various occupational hazards. This study aimed to examine the working conditions of catering staff at the Angré University Hospital Centre (CHU) in 2025.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted among catering staff at the Angré University Hospital Centre. Data were collected using a questionnaire, direct observation of the working environment, and environmental measurements.

Findings: A total of 33 staff members participated in the study, with an average age of 27.7 ± 6.9 years and a predominance of women (57.6%). Cooks accounted for 72.7% of the workforce. The majority held two positions (69.7%) and alternated between several positions (66.7%). Working hours exceeded 70 hours per week for 97% of workers. Identified risk factors included manual handling (90.9%), handling of biological products (72.7%), stress (84.8%) and workplace violence (72.7%). The working environment had several shortcomings: slippery floors, unsanitary conditions, high temperatures (29.1 to 38°C), and insufficient lighting (148 to 360 lux). Nearly 61% of workers had been victims of an accident at work. In terms of prevention, no regulatory medical examinations had been carried out, PPE was inadequate or absent, and vaccinations had not been administered.

Conclusion: An improvement in these working conditions and the implementation of appropriate preventive measures to protect the health and safety of workers.

Keywords: working conditions, collective catering, hospital environment, occupational risks.

CA2	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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STUDY OF THE BIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF WORKERS EXPOSED TO CHEMICALS IN A GOLD MINING COMPANY.

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Introduction: Gold mining requires the use and handling of chemicals that can be harmful to workers' health. The aim of this study was to investigate biological and toxicological abnormalities in workers exposed to chemicals in gold mining operations.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective and analytical study from 2019 to 2023 on the biological and toxicological profile of workers exposed to chemicals in a gold mine. Data were collected from workers' medical records and reports of regulatory medical examinations. They were analysed using Sphynx software. Statistical tests were performed to investigate the relationship between abnormalities and exposure factors. The significance threshold was set at 5%.

Findings: The average age of the workers was 42 years, with a predominance of males (96.87%). Labourers accounted for 54.68% of the workforce, with an average length of service of 7 years. Cyanide (70%) and lead oxide (50%) were the main chemicals to which workers were exposed. Minor abnormalities in haemoglobin levels were observed in 2019 and 2023, with 4.6% and 6.25% of cases respectively. A variation in abnormalities was noted, rising from 6.25% in 2019 to 9.67% in 2023, characterised mainly by leukopenia. Creatinine abnormalities increased from 6.25% in 2019 to 23.43% in 2023. An increase in total cholesterol abnormalities was also noted, from 4.68% in 2019 to 23.43% in 2023. In addition, lead abnormalities increased from 3 cases (4.68%) in 2019 to 5 cases (7.81%) in 2023.

Conclusion: Workers exposed to chemical hazards must be subject to enhanced medical surveillance, with a particular focus on biometrology.

Keywords: Biological monitoring, Chemicals, Mining.

CA3	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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STUDIES OF WORKPLACE ACCIDENTS AMONG WORKERS WHO HAVE SUFFERED HAND INJURIES IN THE GBEKE REGION, IVORY COAST, FROM 2019 TO 2024

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Introduction: The objective of this study was to analyse the return to work of victims of hand injuries reported to the CNPS in the Gbêkê region between 2019 and 2024.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective descriptive cross-sectional study of occupational accidents among workers who suffered hand injuries in the Gbêkê region between 2019 and 2024. This study covered all cases of workers in the formal private sector with hand injuries reported to the CNPS. Qualitative and quantitative variables were expressed as percentages, means and standard deviations, respectively. A multivariate regression analysis was performed. A p-value ≤ 0.05 was required for statistical significance.

Findings: We collected data on 38 occupational accidents involving hand trauma. The majority of victims were men (97.37%), right-handed (92.11%), with an average age of 36.9 ± 9.86 and less than 5 years of professional experience (57.89%). Workplace accidents accounted for the majority of cases (92.11%). Only 6 victims (15.79%) lost their jobs, while 32 (84.21%) returned to work. The factors significantly associated with returning to work were the nature of the injury (fractures/amputations) and sequelae that reduced the risk of returning to work (OR=0.2, $p=0.02$), (OR=0.3, $p=0.05$).

Conclusion: Workplace accidents involving hand trauma cause considerable suffering and loss in the world of work. Return to work was significantly influenced by the severity of the initial injuries and the presence of sequelae, hence the need to implement a prevention strategy and promote the professional reintegration of victims of hand trauma.

Keywords: Workplace accident; hand trauma; return to work; Côte d'Ivoire.

CA4	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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ASSESSMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN A MODERN CAR GARAGE IN THE CITY OF BAMAKO, MALI

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Introduction: Occupational risks represented by accidents at work and occupational diseases cause significant physical injury, material damage, financial loss and a deterioration in the social climate within companies.

Methods: This is a descriptive cross-sectional study covering a two-month period. All garage staff were included, regardless of their age and qualifications. Data was collected through site visits and a multi-part questionnaire (sociodemographic aspects, working conditions and risk assessments).

Findings: The average age was 30 and the workforce was exclusively male. The extremes were 19 and 54 years old. Half of the garage staff had been employed for more than 10 years. The workers' monthly income was low. The main activities were breakdown repairs, bodywork, painting and quick maintenance. Within the garage, among the nuisance factors we recorded, 50% were exposed to heat and dust, 75% were exposed to noise, 50% were exposed to fumes and vapour and 65% were exposed to vibrations. The risk of explosion or fire was present in 80% of cases. We did not record any cases of occupational deafness. With regard to the constraints associated with work situations, all (100%) stated that they adopted different postures in practice, some more uncomfortable than others. 90% of these workers did more than just handling. Mental stress was also very high, with 50% reporting experiencing it. 85% had had 1 to 2 accidents at work, while 15% reported having had between 3 and 4 accidents at work and 20% reported having had an accident on the way to or from work.

Conclusion: In this environment, it is important to consider prevention strategies focused primarily on primary prevention.

Keywords: assessment; occupational risks; garage, Bamako.

CA5	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Overview of occupational risks in the primary and secondary sectors
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL PROFILE OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS WHO ATTENDED THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE AT LAQUINTINIE HOSPITAL IN DOUALA, CAMEROON

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Introduction: The nursing staff at Laquintinie Hospital in Douala was the largest group of workers to visit the occupational medicine department (46.07%) in 2024.

Methods: In order to determine the epidemiological profile of these healthcare professionals, a descriptive cross-sectional analytical study was conducted based on the department's records covering the period from January 2024 to June 2025. It also aimed to identify the occupational risks recorded and to determine the influence of the workplace, whether in an inpatient or outpatient department. The data were analysed using SPSS 22 and Excel software. Associated factors were investigated using Fisher's Chi-square test and multivariate analysis at a threshold of $\alpha=5\%$, with $p < 5\%$.

Findings: 785 morbidities were recorded among 1,136 workers seen, representing 69.10%. 95% were women. The predominant age group was 45 to 54 years (40%). The average age was 38 ± 6 years. Caregivers in accommodation services were in the majority (66%). The five most common morbidities were: malaria (118 cases), low back pain (62 cases), ametropia (51 cases), high blood pressure (41 cases) and pulpitis (34 cases). Five occupational risk groups were predominant: MSDs (91 cases), hypertension/diabetes (55 cases), AT (36 cases), RPS (11 cases), and 6 cases of pneumonia. Low back pain was the most common (7.89%), followed by hypertension (5.22%). These occupational risks increased with age and length of service in the workplace. We did not find a statistically significant association between departments and morbidity.

Conclusion: Low back pain is the most commonly recorded morbidity related to nursing activity. Caregivers in residential departments who work shifts and perform complex tasks to ensure quality care and patient safety are no more exposed to occupational risks than caregivers in day departments.

Keywords: Laquintine Hospital in Douala, Morbidity, Occupational risk.

**SUB-THEME NO 2:
APPROACHES AND
PREVENTION STRATEGIES
FOR OCCUPATIONAL RISKS**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C017	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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ASSESSMENT OF ABSENTEEISM FOR HEALTH REASONS AND IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS BY THE OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIAN AT LAQUINTINIE HOSPITAL IN DOUALA, CAMEROON

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Introduction: Health-related absenteeism is a major indicator of occupational health in our hospitals, and occupational physicians play a preventive role in this regard.

Methods: In order to highlight health-related absenteeism at Laquintinie Hospital in Douala, a descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted based on the occupational health department's records covering the period from January 2024 to September 2025. It also aimed to evaluate the occupational physician's interventions to reduce the incidence of absenteeism through actions such as adjusting or changing workstations and reorganising work schedules. The data were analysed using SPSS 22 and Excel software. Associated factors were investigated using Fisher's Chi-2 tests and multivariate analysis, at a threshold of $\alpha=5\%$, with $p < 5\%$.

Findings: 683 health-related absences were recorded out of 3,174 workers seen, representing a proportion of 21.51%. This is lower than the figure observed in 2019 (25.27%). Women accounted for 80% of absences. The dominant age group was 36 to 45 years old (35.5%), with an average age of 37 ± 6 years. Nursing staff remained the most affected (46%). These results are consistent with those reported by Antoine Vallauri in his study 'Agir pour prévenir et réduire l'absentéisme' (Taking action to prevent and reduce absenteeism). Accommodation services were the most affected (47%). Work stoppages of less than five days were the most frequent (74.23%). Fourteen preventive actions were effective (2.04%), the most common being a change of workstation (35.71%). The implementation of these measures contributed to a significant reduction in absenteeism: 92% of workers did not benefit from an extension of their work stoppage.

Conclusion: 21.51% of workers took sick leave in our study, compared to 25.27% in 2019. This decrease demonstrates the effectiveness of the preventive measures put in place. Their long-term integration into occupational health monitoring appears essential to consolidate these results.

Keywords: absenteeism for health reasons, Laquintinie Hospital in Douala, prevention.

C018	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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PARTICIPATORY SCREENING OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE STERILISATION UNIT OF THE NIONO REFERENCE HEALTH CENTRE (CSREF) IN 2024.

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Introduction: Occupational risk assessment is the first step in any occupational health and safety prevention program. It is crucial when considering the implementation of preventive measures to protect staff. Given the widespread increase in occupational risks in hospitals, it is essential to analyse the most exposed work environments. Among these, the sterilisation unit stands out due to the frequency of handling contaminated medical devices, the use of chemicals and the pressure associated with safety and responsiveness requirements. This study is part of this context and aims to assess the specific risks associated with this strategic but potentially dangerous unit. Furthermore, according to the International Labour Organisation, every year 2.78 million workers lose their lives as a result of occupational accidents and diseases.

Methods: As part of our approach, we adopted the participatory risk screening method (Déparis), representing the first level of the SOBANE strategy (identification, observation, analysis, expertise).

Findings: The screening was carried out by a nine-member committee, coordinated by the CSRéf occupational health and safety (OHS) officer. The two Déparis meetings resulted in the formulation of 50 preventive actions, 66% of which were cost-free. Six situations (33.33%) were deemed satisfactory, five (50%) average and two (11.11%) unsatisfactory, related to electrical, fire and psychosocial risks.

Conclusion: Twelve aspects need to be studied in depth. This study highlighted significant occupational risks and provides a basis for improving conditions.

Keywords: Participatory screening - Sterilisation unit - CSRéf Niono - Mali.

C019	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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ASSESSMENT OF RADIATION PROTECTION IN TERTIARY HOSPITALS IN MALI IN 2024

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Affiliation: SOMASST

Introduction: The medical use of ionising radiation (IR) can cause long-term stochastic effects in healthcare workers. Objective: To evaluate radiation protection in tertiary referral hospitals in Mali.

Methods: This was a mixed study, conducted with a cross-sectional analytical approach.

Findings: The average age of respondents was 40.84 years (standard deviation of 8.60). The 32-41 age group was the most represented, at 40.51%. The majority of staff were male (87.34%) with a male-to-female ratio of 6.9. All respondents had information on the effects of ionising radiation, i.e. 100%. More than half had received training in radiation protection (74.68%). Most knew the correct definition of radiation protection (67.09%), and 74.68% stated that there is a risk of radiation-induced cancer due to the dose delivered during a medical imaging examination involving radiation. The most widely known means of radiation protection among staff were lead aprons (96.20%), followed by lead screens (88.61%); these were also the most widely used means, at 88.61% and 82.28% respectively. More than half did not have an individual dosimeter (51.90%) and almost all staff did not receive medical surveillance (83.50%).

Conclusion: This study has highlighted the real need to implement a compensation strategy for staff exposed to IR.

Keywords: Medical imaging, Radiation protection, Tertiary referral hospitals.

C020	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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MANAGING MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS IN A HOSPITAL SETTING: The case of CHUD-O in 2022

KEDOTE-ZANKLAN Y. Lauréno.D

Affiliation: CHUD-O

Introduction: This case concerns a healthcare worker suffering from an MSD, whose effective treatment required a tertiary prevention method following diagnosis by an occupational physician.

Methods: Our diagnostic approach took into account legal, clinical and environmental data (site visit) from CHUD-O in 2022.

Findings: Ms L.B., aged 46, mother of five children and divorced for 10 years, has been working in sterilisation for 15 years in a childcare system. Her task consisted, on the one hand, of serving surgical equipment, mainly orthopaedic toolboxes weighing an average of 10 to 12 kg, lined up in height, and, on the other hand, of collecting soiled equipment, which she sterilised, as well as maintaining the sterilisation room and the waste disposal unit. The patient suffered from bilateral calcific tendinopathy of the rotator cuff, an MSD classified as No. 81 on the list of occupational diseases in Benin. A site visit revealed that, in addition to other factors, the ergonomic conditions had contributed to the development of the disease. The patient's condition improved significantly following her reassignment to a different position.

Conclusion: Site visits help to reinforce diagnostic and therapeutic arguments in the management of workers' health. Job reassignment is part of tertiary prevention and contributes to satisfactory management.

Keywords: healthcare personnel, tendinopathy, job reassignment.

C021	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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THE IMPORTANCE OF REGULAR ANNUAL HEALTH CHECKUPS

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Introduction: The importance of periodic check-ups often remains unclear to employers and workers themselves. A series of annual check-ups in a company led to observations that guided proposals for preventive measures that could significantly improve the health of staff in an administrative structure in Benin.

Methods: We regularly monitored the results of annual checkups carried out at the facility in question over a period of three years. The presentation of these results enabled us to take a participatory approach to proposing preventive measures that were accepted and observed by the majority of staff.

Findings: An administrative company with 32 permanent staff invited a specialist in risk management to visit their organisation. The company's operations are based on positions in debt collection, reception, accounting, cashiering, guidance and archiving. The annual health check-ups carried out over three consecutive years revealed an increase in the number of risk factors, mainly cardiovascular. These findings convinced the staff to implement a comprehensive occupational health system and adopt the proposed preventive measures for the well-being of these workers.

Conclusion: Regular, well-monitored periodic checkups in the workplace remain a key element of risk management in companies. They can be a means of convincing workers to embrace occupational health. It would be interesting to find ways to motivate companies that already honour these periodic checkups.

Keywords: annual checkups.

C022	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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PERCEPTIONS AND PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL RISKS IN THE ARTISAN MINING SECTOR: THE CASE OF THE BOUDA SITE (BURKINA FASO).

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Introduction: The emergence of gold mining led to a mining boom in West Africa in the early 2000s. This professional windfall now poses many challenges, including the issue of workers' health in this sector.

Methods: From a qualitative perspective, this study, conducted at the artisanal mining site of Bouda (Burkina Faso) between August 2023 and September 2024, addresses the concepts of perceptions and prevention of occupational risks in the artisanal mining sector, based on a literature review and empirical work involving interviews with sixty-three (63) stakeholders.

Findings: Analysis of the field data revealed that, on the one hand, the pursuit of immediate gain influences risk perception and, on the other hand, ignorance and/or neglect of health risks influences eco-health practices. Despite the legal prevention measures in force, the artisanal miners of Bouda operate in winter, use chemicals (mercury, cyanide, nitric and sulphuric acid) and carry out blasting. The concept of prevention is not unknown to the stakeholders, but the perception of risk depends on social category. Faced with precarious conditions, artisans with low economic power claim they have no choice but to mortgage their health for their "survival". Mine bosses, for their part, believe in predestination. The most at-risk professional profiles are "Topo-mans" (fraudulent operators) and 'caleurs' (well support specialists).

Conclusion: Given the diverse perceptions and practices reported in terms of occupational risk prevention, a participatory reflection on the organisation of the artisanal mining sector and the presence of occupational health services in this sector is necessary.

Keywords: Perceptions, Occupational risks, mining, Burkina Faso.

C023	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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STABILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF CHLORINE DISINFECTANTS IN BENINESE HOSPITALS: CHALLENGES FOR INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL AND ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

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Introduction: In hospitals with limited resources, chlorine solutions remain the most commonly used disinfectants for bio-cleaning. Their effectiveness depends heavily on the concentration of active chlorine and the conditions of preparation and storage. The objective of this study was to evaluate the stability of active chlorine and the bactericidal efficacy of chlorinated solutions used for disinfection in the hospital environment of university hospitals in Benin.

Methods: This study was conducted from 10 March to 11 July 2025 in six university hospitals in Benin. A total of 103 samples were analysed by iodometric titration according to the AFNOR NF EN ISO 7393-3 (2000) standard and WHO recommendations. Bactericidal activity was evaluated on multi-resistant hospital strains using the germ carrier method, inspired by standard NF T72-281.

Findings: The results show that 88.35% of the solutions had a non-compliant active chlorine concentration. Overall bactericidal efficacy was low (14.56%), with a predominance of ineffectiveness against Gram-negative bacilli (79.61%) and Gram-positive cocci (84.47%). A statistically significant association was observed between active chlorine level compliance and bactericidal efficacy (OR = 42.5; $p < 0.000001$). The main factors associated with this ineffectiveness include: storage without protection from light, use of transparent containers, storage for more than two days, non-compliant active chlorine concentration and inappropriate pH.

Conclusion: These shortcomings compromise hospital disinfection and promote the persistence of multi-resistant bacteria in the hospital environment.

Keywords: active chlorine, bactericidal efficacy, infection prevention and control, bacterial multi-resistance, Benin.

C024	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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A CASE OF AN ACCIDENT AT WORK INVOLVING PHYSICAL ASSAULT

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Introduction: Conflicts in the workplace can escalate and lead to physical assaults. The occurrence of such an assault in the workplace while performing tasks is a workplace accident that requires administrative and occupational health measures to be taken. This was the case for two employees at CHUD-O.

Methods: Our diagnostic and aetiological approach was based on clinical and environmental data (site visit) from the location of the conflict. Multidisciplinary management required the involvement of the administration and tertiary prevention measures.

Findings: Mr H.G., 40 years old, alcoholic, maintenance worker at the bicycle guard post, was seen by the occupational physician for trauma in the context of a physical assault with a knife by another colleague, which resulted in an open wound on his left arm with axonal rupture and no evidence of fracture. Treatment included: reporting the accident at work, with a temporary total incapacity period of seven days, corrective measures by the administrative mediation committee, and an aetiological investigation which revealed the need for hygienic toilets in the workplace, in addition to other individual factors.

Conclusion: Conflicts in the workplace can lead to workplace accidents involving physical assault. Good toilet hygiene contributes to a good working environment. Monitoring cases and risks of alcohol addiction should not be neglected in any sector of work.

Keywords: conflict, toilet hygiene, alcoholism.

**SUB-THEME NO 3-4:
ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF
OCCUPATIONAL
RISKS,WORKING
CONDITIONS, AND
CARDIOVASCULAR AND
RESPIRATORY HEALTH OF
WORKERS / PART 1**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C025	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Socio-economic impacts of occupational risks
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THE EXPERT FACED WITH ASSESSING THE DURATION OF WORK DISABILITY: BETWEEN FALSE CERTIFICATES AND DOCTOR COMPLACENCY

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Introduction: Assessing the duration of incapacity for work is a complex task with significant medico-legal implications, placing the physician's responsibility between scientific objectivity and social or compassionate pressures. The certificate of incapacity, a document with legal and administrative value, must be based on precise medical criteria, founded on the nature of the injuries, their functional impact and the chronology of events.

Methods: Through this presentation and review of the literature, we believe it is appropriate to clarify the concept of incapacity for work during a medical re-examination requested by an employer for one of its employees.

Findings: Case presentation: The case of Ms D.A., aged 51, the alleged victim of an assault at her workplace, raises serious questions about the credibility of the initial medical certificate. In fact, the successive certificates for three days of sick leave prescribed by two nurses were extended thirteen days after the incident by a doctor who prescribed twenty-one days of sick leave for contusions described as minor, even though radiological findings revealed an old enthesopathy with no causal link to the incident. The discrepancy between the clinical conclusions, the injuries described and the video images of the event raises legitimate suspicion of complacency and overestimation of the bodily injury.

Conclusion: This case illustrates the potential abuses surrounding the issuance of sick leave certificates when they cease to be neutral medical instruments and become a means of exerting pressure or providing social protection. Medical expertise must then return to its primary function: providing an impartial assessment, based on objective evidence, respecting both scientific truth and professional ethics. Rigorous control of certificates and training in medico-legal writing are necessary to preserve the credibility of the medical profession.

Keywords: incapacity for work, violence at work, sick leave.

C026	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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DIABETES AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS AMONG WORKERS IN THE AGRO-TEXTILE SECTOR IN BENIN IN 2019

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Introduction: Occupational exposures in industrial settings, particularly shift work and occupational stress, can contribute to the onset of diabetes in interaction with conventional risk factors. The objective of this study was to estimate the prevalence of diabetes and identify associated factors among cotton factory workers in Benin.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted in 2019 as part of the annual medical examination. Exhaustive recruitment was carried out for permanent workers and random cluster sampling was applied to casual workers. Participants were considered diabetic if they had two fasting venous blood glucose levels > 1.26 g/L or were undergoing antidiabetic treatment. Data were collected using the WHO STEPS questionnaire and analysed using R 4.0.3 software. Analyses were descriptive, then bivariate (Chi² and Fisher's tests) and multivariate (logistic regression), with a significance threshold of 5%.

Findings: A total of 1,743 workers were included. The median age was 37 years (range 28–49 years), and the sex ratio (M/F) was 9.69. The prevalence of diabetes was 2.47% (95% CI: [1.81–3.34]). In bivariate analysis, diabetes was significantly associated with age, type of worker, length of service, shift work, insufficient fruit and vegetable consumption, overweight and high blood pressure. In multivariate analysis, casual worker status (ORa = 2.48, 95% CI [1.23–5.02]) and high blood pressure (ORa = 3.22, 95% CI [1.73–6.02]) remained significantly associated with diabetes. These results suggest that certain working conditions, particularly job insecurity, may contribute to workers' metabolic vulnerability.

Conclusion: Diabetes prevention in the workplace must also take occupational factors into account.

Keywords: Diabetes, industry, occupational factors, occupational health.

C027	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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WORKING ENVIRONMENT AS PERCEIVED BY MATERNITY CARE PROVIDERS AT THE YALGADO OUEDRAOGO UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CENTRE

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Introduction: The environment influences quality of life at work, workers' health and well-being, and the quality of care provided to patients. The objective was to study healthcare providers' perceptions of their working environment in the maternity ward of the Yalgado OUEDRAOGO University Hospital Centre (CHUYO).

Materials and methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted from 1 September to 1 March through interviews and observation of healthcare providers using a questionnaire and observation grid in the maternity ward of CHUYO from 2022 to 2023.

Findings: The average age of the 71 healthcare providers was 37.4 years. Regarding the perception of working conditions among providers, 95.77% reported being overworked. 97.18% were satisfied with their job but not with their salary; 83.10% felt that the materials and equipment were of poor quality, and 98.59% felt that there was not enough of them. For the healthcare providers, the main factors influencing their behaviour were mainly difficult working conditions, with 63.4% complaining of fatigue.

Conclusion: Working conditions at the CHUYO maternity ward were difficult. These working conditions need to be improved in order to protect the health and safety of healthcare providers, the quality of life at work and the quality of care provided to patients.

Keywords: working environment, healthcare providers, working conditions.

C028	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF SHIFT WORK ON HEALTH: THE CASE OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS AT ABIDJAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN 2024

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Introduction: Shift work, which is common in hospitals, is associated with harmful effects on the physical and mental health of healthcare workers.

Methods: A cross-sectional analytical study was conducted from December 2023 to February 2024 in three university hospitals in Abidjan. A structured self-administered questionnaire collected sociodemographic, professional and medical data, as well as sleep quality (PSQI) and mental state (HADS).

Findings: The type of work schedule was significantly associated with gender ($p = 0.046$), department ($p < 0.001$), profession ($p < 0.001$), seniority ($p = 0.001$) and daily working hours ($p < 0.001$). Medical history: peptic ulcer 19.9%, high blood pressure 12.3%, premature births 8.1%, spontaneous abortion 4.2%, AES 37.5%) had higher prevalence rates among shift workers ($p < 0.05$). Nearly 78% of participants had a PSQI > 5 , indicating poor sleep quality, with a significant association ($p = 0.001$). Shift work significantly increased the risk of dyspnoea (OR = 9.8; 95% CI [1.913 - 50.344]), epigastric pain (OR = 5.86; 95% CI [2.977 - 11.542]), gastroesophageal reflux (OR = 4.47; 95% CI [2.266 - 8.810]), premature delivery (OR = 4.43; 95% CI [1.899 - 10.341]), spontaneous abortion (OR = 2.73; 95% CI [0.848–8.816]), high blood pressure (OR = 2.91; 95% CI [1.599–5.286]), alcohol consumption (OR = 2.06; 95% CI [1.446–2.955]), headaches (OR = 1.73; 95% CI [1.166–2.579]) and AES (OR = 4.71; 95% CI [2.950–7.539]).

Conclusion: Shift work is associated with adverse health effects among healthcare workers.

Keywords: Shift work, alternating schedules, healthcare workers, Abidjan.

C029	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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STUDY OF CHRONIC DISEASES AMONG HOSPITAL STAFF AT THE ANGRE HOSPITAL AND UNIVERSITY CENTRE FROM 2019 TO 2024

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Introduction: Chronic diseases are a major health problem in the hospital sector. The objective was to study chronic diseases among hospital staff at the Angré University Hospital Centre in Abidjan from 2019 to 2024.

Methods: We conducted a cross-sectional analytical study based on the medical records of staff with chronic diseases.

Findings: We collected 357 medical records of employees with chronic diseases. Women constituted the largest group (75.1%). The average age was 43.3 ± 7.8 , with a predominance of the 40–49 age group (42.6%). The prevalence of chronic diseases was 31.2%. The specific prevalence was 41.7% for MSDs, 38.9% for high blood pressure, 13.2% for asthma, 2.8% for viral hepatitis B and C, and 0.3% for HIV infection. MSDs were significantly associated with absenteeism ($p=0.001$) and BMI ($p=0.008$). High blood pressure was significantly associated with professional age ($p=0.001$), ($p=0.001$) and length of service ($p=0.000$). Diabetes was also significantly associated with working hours ($p=0.003$).

Conclusion: Targeted preventive measures and occupational health programs are needed to reduce risk factors for chronic diseases.

Keywords: Epidemiology, chronic diseases, hospital staff, Abidjan.

C030	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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ÉTUDE EPIDEMIOLOGIQUE DES MALADIES CHRONIQUES CHEZ LES TRAVAILLEURS D'UNE INSTITUTION BANCAIRE A ABIDJAN.

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Introduction: Chronic diseases represent a major occupational health issue. This study aimed to determine the prevalence of chronic diseases and assess their socio-economic consequences within a banking institution in Côte d'Ivoire.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted in 2023 over a period of six months, based on an analysis of the medical records of staff with chronic diseases. Data were collected using a questionnaire. Data processing and analysis were performed using Microsoft® Excel 2016 and Epi Info 7 software.

Findings: The sample comprised 56.7% men, with a mean age of 45.7 ± 7.11 years. The majority of participants were executives (90.5%). The overall prevalence of chronic diseases was 14.9%. The annual direct cost of managing chronic conditions amounted to 67,771,000 CFA francs, of which 35,040,000 CFA francs were spent on hypertension.

Conclusion: These results highlight the need to develop prevention, management and wellness promotion programs in the tertiary sector, such as banking, to better support workers with chronic diseases.

Keywords: chronic diseases, epidemiology, banking sector, Côte d'Ivoire.

C031	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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ASSESSMENT OF CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS IN AN OIL COMPANY IN GABON IN 2024

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Introduction: Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death worldwide and is particularly prevalent in low- and middle-income countries. In sub-Saharan Africa, few studies have explored the prevalence of these factors in the workplace. In Gabon, data is scarce, particularly in the oil sector, despite its economic importance. This study aimed to assess the frequency of cardiovascular risk factors and estimate the overall cardiovascular risk among workers at an oil company.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study with an analytical focus was conducted from 5 August to 15 November 2024, as part of periodic medical examinations, among 199 workers at an oil company. Data were collected using the WHO STEPS questionnaire, supplemented by a clinical examination and laboratory tests. The risk factors studied included high blood pressure, diabetes, dyslipidaemia, obesity, sedentary lifestyle, alcohol consumption and smoking. Overall cardiovascular risk was calculated using the Framingham score. Statistical analysis was performed using Epi Info

7.2.2.6.

Findings: The population was predominantly male (74.4%), with a mean age of 42.7 ± 8.2 years. Workers were manual labourers in 68.9% of cases. The main risk factors identified were family history of hypertension (43.2%) and diabetes (12.1%), alcohol consumption (72.9%), tobacco use (8%), sedentary lifestyle (71.9%), general obesity (32.2%), hypertension (35.1%), diabetes (11.1%), and dyslipidaemia (81.9%). Metabolic syndrome was found in 21.1% of workers. The overall cardiovascular risk was low for 81.9% of workers, moderate for 14.6%, high for 2.5% and very high for 1%.

Conclusion: Our study shows a high prevalence of cardiovascular risk factors in the oil industry, highlighting the need for a program to prevent cardiovascular disease and promote cardiovascular health in the workplace.

Keywords: Cardiovascular risk factors, oil industry, Gabon.

C032	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE RISK OF SLEEP APNEA SYNDROME IN THE WORKPLACE IN PORT-GENTIL (GABON).

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Introduction: Objective: to determine the frequency and factors associated with the risk of sleep apnoea syndrome in an inter-company occupational health service in Port-Gentil, Gabon.

Methods: We conducted a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study of 583 workers from an inter-company occupational health service in the city of Port-Gentil (Gabon) from January to December 2022. A high probability of sleep apnoea syndrome was determined based on a positive score on the Berlin questionnaire test.

Findings: The frequency of suspected sleep apnoea syndrome was 3.43%, or 20 workers out of 583. The average age was 42+/-7 years, with a clear male predominance at 70%. The majority were manual workers (35%) in shift work (85%) with a university education (55%). Half of the workers with SAS were diabetic, 40% had hypertension, and 85% were centrally and abdominally obese. Only 20% of workers with SAS reported regular physical activity for health reasons, and 85% reported regular consumption of sugary drinks. A professional impact was observed in 30% of workers with redeployment or reclassification, and 25% had high absenteeism rates. Advanced age, male gender, shift work, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and lack of physical activity for health were significantly associated with a high risk of SAS. A significant professional impact and high absenteeism rates were more common among workers at high risk of SAS. These data are similar to those of several African studies, the prevalence of which may be due to the use of self-administered questionnaires rather than standard diagnostic tests.

Conclusion: Conclusion: SAS is common in the workplace in Port-Gentil, and there are many associated factors. Occupational physicians can play an important role in screening and management in order to minimise the risk to workers and companies.

Keywords: Keywords: sleep apnoea syndrome - associated factors - workplace - Gabon.

**SUB-THEME NO 4: WORKING
CONDITIONS, AND
CARDIOVASCULAR AND
RESPIRATORY HEALTH OF
WORKERS (PART 2)
AND OTHER WORKING
CONDITIONS**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C033	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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HYPERTENSION, OTHER CARDIOVASCULAR AND OCCUPATIONAL RISK FACTORS IN AN AGRICULTURAL COMPANY IN SENEGAL

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Introduction: High blood pressure is a major public health challenge that extends to the workplace. In addition to traditional cardiovascular risk factors, occupational factors may also play a role in the cardiovascular health of workers. The aim of our study was therefore to assess hypertension and its risk factors, both general and work-related, within a Senegalese agri-food company.

Methods: We conducted a one-year retrospective study at the SCL medical department. We included employees who had undergone an annual check-up during this period and assessed high blood pressure and cardiovascular risk factors according to the 2020 ESH recommendations. The data were analysed using SPSS. Means and percentages were compared using the Chi² test. The significance threshold was set at $p < 0.05$. We studied cardiovascular risk factors and occupational characteristics.

Findings: The sex ratio was 1.18, and the prevalence of high blood pressure was 16.4%. The most affected age group was 40-49 years old. Overall cardiovascular risk was high in 13.2% of cases, very high in 12% and moderate in 57.4%. There was a statistically significant relationship between age and grade of hypertension (overall $\chi^2 = 16.56$; $p = 0.035$). The 50-59 age group had an increased risk of severe hypertension (grade 2: OR = 2.10, $p = 0.005$; grade 3: OR = 2.60, $p = 0.002$). Similarly, in multivariate analysis, CKD was strongly associated with grade 3 hypertension (OR = 2.80, $p = 0.008$). Conversely, for diabetes and dyslipidaemia, no statistically significant relationship was found with blood pressure levels. There was no relationship between occupational factors and the grade of hypertension ($p=0.1$ for job position, $p=0.4$ for vibrations, $p=0.7$ for exposure to chemicals). However, jobs involving stress, physical exertion, exposure to the sun and sedentary jobs were linked to different levels of cardiovascular risk.

Conclusion: Among workers with high blood pressure, exposure to occupational risk factors was associated with a higher frequency of high to very high overall cardiovascular risk. Workplace hazards, regardless of the level of exposure, are potential cardiovascular risk factors that need to be studied further in order to clearly establish the relationship with cardiovascular disease in general.

Keywords: High blood pressure, Cardiovascular risk, Agriculture, Senegal.

C034	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH NOT RETURNING TO WORK AFTER A STROKE IN TWO HOSPITALS IN THE CITY OF DOUALA.

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Introduction: The after-effects of strokes can compromise the socio-professional reintegration of victims. This research aimed to study post-stroke professional reintegration in two hospitals in Douala.

Methods: The cross-sectional analytical study was conducted in the first half of 2025. All stroke victims who had suffered a stroke in the three months before the study, who were employed, aged at least 18 years old and who gave their consent were included. The data collected were analysed using the Barthel Index to assess functional autonomy, the HADS scale to assess anxiety and depression, and the SF-12 questionnaire to assess the participants' quality of life. The tests used were Chi², Fisher and Student, with a threshold of $\alpha = 5\%$, $p < 5\%$. Factors associated with not returning to work were analysed using multivariate logistic regression.

Findings: The sample was predominantly female (54.85%), with a majority of informal workers (58.28%). The stroke was mild in 46.85% of participants with a low NIHSS (0-4). The sequelae were motor (74.85%) and sensory (40.57%). The rate of return to work was 32%. Predictive factors for not returning to work were: informal work (Ora = 3.43; $p = 0.012$), manual labour (Ora = 5.41; $p = 0.047$), monthly income below the minimum wage (Ora = 12.27; $p = 0.010$), alcohol consumption (Ora = 4.19; $p = 0.040$), recurrent stroke (Ora = 20.09; $p = 0.010$), presence of motor deficit (Ora = 9.93; $p < 0.001$), presence of sensory deficit (Ora = 4.88; $p = 0.015$), NIHSS = 5-15 (Ora = 6.06; $p = 0.002$).

Conclusion: The return-to-work rate was low. The multiplicity of limiting factors requires the implementation of appropriate rehabilitation strategies and professional integration policies.

Keywords: stroke, return to work, work, associated factors, Douala.

C035	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL PROFILE OF EMPLOYEES WITH DIABETES IN A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION IN ABIDJAN IN 2023

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Introduction: Diabetes is a major public health problem that has an impact on occupational health. This study aims to characterise workers with diabetes, assess the prevalence of diabetes, and evaluate its occupational and economic implications within a bank in Côte d'Ivoire.

Methods: We conducted a retrospective descriptive study of the socio-professional profile of diabetic workers in a banking institution in Abidjan over a six-month period. Sociodemographic, professional and medical data were extracted from the files. Variables were compared using the chi-square test, with a significance threshold of 5%.

Findings: Out of a total workforce of 1,285 employees, 95 were diabetic, representing a prevalence of 7.4%. The diabetic workers were predominantly male (73.7%), with an average age of 46.1 ± 4.8 years, and 65.3% had been employed for more than 10 years. Alcohol consumption was reported by 56.8%, and 50.5% did not engage in regular physical activity. The average BMI was 28.3 ± 4.8 kg/m²; 36.8% had HbA1c $\geq 7\%$ and 33.7% had a history of hypertension. The average duration of diabetes was 5.9 ± 3.3 years. Diabetes-related sick leave was observed in 63.2%, with an average annual cost of care of 525,463 CFA francs. Absenteeism was significantly associated with being male [$p=0.012$; OR=0.24 (0.07–0.77)], being in the managerial occupational category [$p=0.002$; OR=0.26 (0.29–1.75)], HbA1c $\leq 7\%$ [$p=0.000$; OR=0.42 (0.31–0.56)] and hypertension [$p=0.019$; OR=0.35 (0.15–0.85)].

Conclusion: Diabetes in the banking sector is associated with frequent metabolic imbalance, comorbidities and high absenteeism. Strengthening medical monitoring, therapeutic education and health promotion in the workplace is recommended.

Keywords: Diabetes, Absenteeism, Banking sector, Associated factors, Abidjan.

C036	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Open presentations
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TRAMADOL OVERUSE AMONG ROAD TRAFFIC DRIVERS IN COTONOU (BENIN) IN 2024.

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Introduction: The overuse of tramadol, used both as an analgesic and a psychoactive substance, is growing at an alarming rate in West Africa. Among road traffic drivers, this drug is often misused to improve alertness, endure long hours of driving or cope with occupational stress. In Benin, little recent data exists. This study, conducted between May and August 2024, aimed to estimate the prevalence of Tramadol overuse in Cotonou and identify the associated factors.

Methods: A cross-sectional analytical study was conducted among 421 motorcycle taxi, taxi and truck drivers recruited by convenience sampling. Data were collected using a structured questionnaire administered face-to-face by trained interviewers. Participants reported, among other things, the amount consumed and sources of supply. Analyses were performed using bivariate and multivariate logistic regression ($p < 0.05$).

Findings: The overall prevalence of tramadol overuse was 61%. The quantities reported ranged from 100 mg to more than 400 mg/day, often taken before or during working hours. The supply came mainly from the informal sector (67%). Associated factors included: professional profile, seniority, daily working hours, age > 40 years, low level of education, rural origin and perception (stimulant or 'vitamin'). The multivariate model identified the following as the main predictors: driver profile, perception of the product, geographical origin, number of working hours, age and seniority.

Conclusion: Tramadol overuse appears to be widespread among drivers in Cotonou, fuelled by perceived performance needs and the arduous nature of the work. These results call for targeted actions addressing occupational stress, mental health, and strengthening drug regulation.

Keywords: Tramadol, overuse, drivers, associated factors, Cotonou.

C037	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Open presentations
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EVALUATION DES CONTRAINTES THERMIQUES CHEZ LES CONDUCTEURS DE TAXI-MOTOS A COTONOU EN 2017

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Affiliation: PAC

Introduction: Climate change is intensifying heat waves, threatening the health of exposed workers. Motorcycle taxi drivers in Cotonou are a particularly vulnerable population. This study aims to assess their thermal stress, risky working hours and associated symptoms.

Methods: This is a prospective cohort study. The variables studied were the WBGT heat stress level, clinical symptoms, physiological parameters, and sociodemographic and occupational characteristics. It was preceded by a sample selection process based on matching. A questionnaire survey was conducted, and measurements of temperature, humidity and physiological parameters were taken. The data were analysed using SPSS 31 software. A bivariate analysis was performed (χ^2 for proportions, Student's t-test for means). The significance threshold was set at $p < 0.05$.

Findings: A total of 35 taxi drivers and 35 matched subjects were included. The mean age of participants was 45 years in both groups, and taxi drivers had an average of 15 years of professional experience. Clinical symptoms such as headaches (43% vs. 17%), myalgia (60% vs. 29%) and vertigo (26% vs. 17%) were more common among taxi drivers. The time spent outdoors was similar in the dry season, at around 11 hours/day, but higher among taxi drivers in the rainy season (827 vs. 620 min, $p = 0.01$). The WBGT exceeded 30°C from 7:00 a.m. in the rainy season, remaining at a plateau until late afternoon. In the dry season, it rose gradually to 35°C between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., constituting a high-risk time slot for heat stress.

Conclusion: Thermal stress is high among motorcycle taxi drivers, associated with frequent symptoms. Preventive measures are necessary to prevent adverse effects on their health.

Keywords: Thermal stress, Motorcycle taxi, WBGT index, Workload.

C038	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Open presentations
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DOCTORS, BETWEEN WORKING CONDITIONS AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY

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Introduction: The practice of the medical profession involves exposure to occupational risks and hardships. If left unchecked, these risks can become a source of conflict and dissatisfaction, which may call into question the caregiver's responsibility. This study aimed to identify work situations that could lead to medical errors or endanger the health of caregivers, and to report on Togo's regulatory and legislative requirements regarding working conditions.

Methods: We compiled a list of Togolese laws and regulations relating to work and working conditions and reported on a number of work situations observed by occupational physicians in public health establishments, based on interviews with healthcare workers and observation of working conditions. A literature review was used to supplement this analysis.

Findings: Working conditions posing medico-legal risks: dilapidated infrastructure and equipment; shortage of qualified healthcare personnel; exposure to occupational hazards (biological, physical, psychosocial, ergonomic); arduous night work leading to impaired alertness and risk of medical errors; lack of facilities for relaxation and comfort: catering, transport. Legislation: Law No. 2021-012 of 18/06/2021 on the Labour Code requires employers to ensure healthy, safe and hygienic working conditions for all workers.

Conclusion: While doctors strive to fulfil their duty of care, poor working conditions, arduous commutes and insufficient rest can impair their physical and mental abilities, leading them into a vicious circle of exhaustion, illness, medical errors or malpractice, and medical liability, with criminal liability being the most feared consequence.

Keywords: working conditions, medical liability, regulations, Togo.

C039	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Open presentations
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AUTHORS AND FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS IN MALI: A QUALITATIVE STUDY

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Introduction: In Mali, there are many sex workers (SWs) who are more exposed to HIV. Violence against SWs is one of the main factors that makes them vulnerable to this infection. The present study aimed to examine the perpetrators and forms of violence against SWs in Mali.

Methods: An exploratory qualitative study involving individual and group interviews was conducted with SW, police officers, clients, regular sexual partners of SW, managers of prostitution sites, taxi drivers, social and health service workers, managers of adapted services and opinion leaders. It included 50 participants selected using snowball sampling and reasoned choice. The data were analysed thematically using NVivo 12 software.

Findings: The study identified 24 forms and 51 types of perpetrators. The 24 forms of violence were divided into verbal (2), psychological (4), physical (2), sexual (5), economic (10) and administrative violence (1). The 51 types of perpetrators, grouped into 18 categories, include clients, neighbourhood residents, uniformed personnel, bandits, site personnel, family members, SW colleagues, friends, transport sector workers, regular sexual partners, pimps, health workers, landlords, roommates, security guards, vendors and decision-makers.

Conclusion: The results of this study provide an overview of the forms and perpetrators of violence against SWs in Mali. They could be used in the fight against such violence and, consequently, against HIV and AIDS.

Keywords: HIV, AIDS, Violence, Forms, Perpetrator, Sex worker, SW, Mali, Bamako.

C040	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions and cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF RESPIRATORY DISORDERS AMONG WORKERS AT A GRANITE QUARRY IN ZINIARE, BURKINA FASO, IN 2022.

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Introduction: Respiratory diseases impose a huge global health burden, and their main cause is direct and indirect exposure to tobacco smoke and air pollution in the workplace.

Methods: This was a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study. Through exhaustive recruitment, 63 workers were included and asked to complete a questionnaire. We used R 4.1.1 software to analyse the data, with univariate analyses to identify associated factors. Crude ORs were used to measure the strength of association. The significance threshold chosen was $p \leq 0.05$.

Findings: Almost all (95.2%) were male. Their median age was 38 years, with an interquartile range of 31 to 46 years. The average dust level was $0.9 \text{ mg/m}^3 \pm 0.7 \text{ mg/m}^3$, with extremes of 0.03 and 1.99 mg/m^3 . Thirty-two workers (50.8%; 95% CI: 38.0-63.5) had respiratory disorders. The prevalence rates were 7.94% for silicosis, 3.17% for COPD, 6.35% for chronic bronchitis, 15.87% for small airway disease (SAD) and 6.35% for rhinitis. Age over 38, dust levels above 0.1 mg/m^3 and male gender were risk factors associated with respiratory disorders, with OR = 2.31, CI (95%) [0.85-6.49], OR = 2.03, CI (95%) [0.61-7.45] and OR = 2.00, CI (95%) [0.18-44.4], respectively.

Conclusion: Some quarry workers are exposed to dust levels above the standard, and half of them suffer from respiratory disorders.

Keywords: Respiratory disorders, free crystalline silica, granite.

**SUB-THEME NO 2:
APPROACHES AND
PREVENTION STRATEGIES
FOR OCCUPATIONAL RISKS**

**POSTER
PRESENTATIONS**

CA6	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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COMMITMENT AND LEADERSHIP IN OCCUPATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT.

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Introduction: Occupational risk management in companies requires preventive and proactive measures, necessitating the implementation of an occupational risk prevention program.

Methods: For this prevention program to be successful, management and prevention stakeholders must demonstrate interest, commitment and, above all, long-term leadership to protect workers against occupational accidents and diseases. The BRADLEY/DUPONT model proposed in 1995 highlighted the correlation between the type of leadership in a company and its OHS performance.

Findings: This model demonstrates that benevolent and supportive leadership based on strong management involvement, a shared vision, credibility and exemplary behaviour, team spirit and cross-functional cooperation, as well as recognition of good practices and the application of fair sanctions, contributes not only to better OHS performance, but also to improved employee productivity and profitability.

Conclusion: Occupational risk management requires strong commitment and caring, supportive leadership from managers to drive momentum and set an example.

Keywords: commitment – leadership – occupational risks.

CA7	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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EVALUATION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HAND HYGIENE BY HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS AT THE CNHU-PPC IN 2025

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Introduction: Implementation is a key intervention that ensures the safety of healthcare workers and patients. This study aims to evaluate the implementation of hand hygiene by healthcare providers at CNHU-PPC in 2025.

Methods: This was a normative, mixed-method, cross-sectional evaluative study. Data were collected from August to September 2025 through direct observation of practices and interviews with managers, using digital grids and questionnaires on KoBoCollect. The observation phase was carried out by two epidemiologists and the interview phase by three. Input, process and output scores were calculated and expressed as percentages to assess the overall level of implementation. An implementation threshold of $\geq 75\%$ is considered good.

Results: The median age of healthcare providers was 32 [27–44.5] years, with a predominance of males (52.78%, sex ratio = 1.12). The overall level of the input dimension was 70.94%, which was considered poor, while the level of the process dimension was 48.56%. The overall level of hand hygiene practice was 32.11%, and the level of correct practice was 64.71%. The main obstacles reported were lack of or insufficient equipment (72.22%), forgetfulness (44.44%), environmental constraints (36.11%), lack of time (33.3%) and excessive workload (30.56%).

Conclusion: The level of hand hygiene implementation at CNHU-PPC in 2025 is insufficient, linked to low levels of input and process dimensions. Strengthening the availability of resources, training and supervision is necessary to ensure the safety of patients and healthcare workers.

Keywords: Hand hygiene, implementation, barriers, CNHU-PPC, Benin.

CA8	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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THE PRACTICE OF QUARTER-HOUR SAFETY MEETINGS IN MINING COMPANIES: KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES AMONG WORKERS ON THE BOTO PROJECT IN SENEGAL

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Introduction: The mining sector is a dangerous industry. It is prone to accidents that are often serious and sometimes fatal. In order to control the risk of accidents and increase productivity, mining companies have implemented health and safety management systems, including a 15-minute HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) briefing before the start of each shift to raise awareness among their staff. This session, known as MBA (Mind Body Achievement) in Boto, is a key prevention activity that reinforces the development of a safety culture within the company. It includes a warm-up exercise, a 'safety share', a presentation on a specific topic and an announcement of the day's schedule. The overall objective of our study is to analyse knowledge, attitudes and practices relating to MBA in Boto.

Methods: This was a descriptive study conducted between 1 May and 15 June 2024. A questionnaire was distributed to all workers. The data were analysed using Epi Info software.

Findings: 215 workers responded, representing 78.6% of the workforce. The average age was 35 and the sex ratio was 14.4. The three most represented occupational categories were: managers, HSE officers and engineers. The average length of service in the position was 4.4 years. 27.9% of respondents had been attending the MBA for at least five years. 76.6% of respondents were aware of the theoretical duration of 15 minutes. Similarly, 31.6% demonstrated a good understanding of the structure of the MBA. Finally, 41.4% clearly mentioned the concept of prevention as the main purpose of the MBA. 11.6% of those surveyed found the current duration inadequate and expressed a preference for safety share. 94.9% are convinced of the value of the MBA and 0.5% say it is of no value. In practice, the MBA lasts 17 minutes. The structure in the field includes: muscle warm-up, safety share, topic of the week, commitment and sometimes prayer.

Conclusion: Workers are familiar with the principle of the MBA and its purpose. They express a preference for the safety share and suggest controlling the overall duration of the session. In practice, the MBA lasts more than 15 minutes, but its structure is respected.

Keywords: Toolbox talk, MBA, prevention, perception, Mine, Accidents.

CA9	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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WORK ABSENCES FOR MEDICAL REASONS AND QUALITY OF LIFE AT WORK: SURVEY OF WORKERS AT THE LIBREVILLE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL IN GABON, 2020.

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Introduction: Absenteeism due to sick leave remains a real public health problem, particularly in Gabonese hospitals. We conducted this study to determine the prevalence of sick leave and identify factors related to quality of life at work associated with sick leave among a sample of workers at the Libreville University Hospital.

Methods: The study was descriptive and analytical, using an anonymous self-administered questionnaire proposed by the Occupational Health and Safety Department to staff in all departments of the CHUL from 1 January to 31 March 2020. Socio-professional data, quality of life at work and data related to absenteeism due to illness were collected. Epi Info software was used. Poisson regression was used to search for associated factors, with a significance threshold of 5%.

Findings: We included 254 participants. Women predominated (66.9%). The prevalence of sick leave was 33.8%. Sick leave was higher among nurses (32.84%). Common illness (22.44%), workplace accidents (1.57%) and occupational illness (1.57%) were the most frequent causes of sick leave in the last 12 months. The average duration of sick leave per employee was 3.02 days in the last 12 months. Sick leave was significantly associated with profession (nurse, $p=0.04844$ and trainee, $p=0.00128$), gender (male, $p=0.05$), marital status (married, $p=0.043$), the presence of aggression at work ($p=0.000223$), a poor working atmosphere ($p=0.00139$), and the existence of job satisfaction ($p=0.031266$).

Conclusion: The study reveals a high prevalence of sick leave at CHUL. Certain factors related to quality of life at work are associated with this sick leave. A better understanding and improvement of the quality of life at work for hospital staff will enable a lasting and effective reduction in absenteeism due to health reasons at CHUL.

Keywords: Sick leave, CHUL, Hospital staff, Gabon.

CA10	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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ARING FOR CARERS: DEVELOPMENT OF AN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PROGRAM FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN TOGO

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Introduction: In most African countries, such as Togo, the safety and health of healthcare workers remains a challenge for the well-being of caregivers, the quality of care and patient safety. The objective of this analysis is to highlight the successes and challenges associated with implementing such a program at the national level.

Methods: Qualitative analytical study of documents relating to the implementation of the HealthWISE pilot project, OSH in health emergencies and the OSH strategic plan for healthcare workers, as well as national health and labour policies and strategies in Togo. This study was conducted from 1 to 30 September 2025 with the aid of a data collection form.

Findings: Conclusive results from improvements observed in pilot centres established in 2016 led to the launch of a strategic plan for scaling up. Capacity building for health workers, the establishment of occupational health and safety committees, the conduct of field surveys and the drafting of OHS guidelines and protocols during 2017-2022 have enabled a considerable expansion of the HealthWISE approach in health facilities. These achievements enabled a rapid response in 2020 through the integration of OSH into the emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic. OSH tracking indicators have been integrated into the national health policy and the national health development plan, as well as into the PNDS monitoring plan. The preparation of health sector performance reports in 2024 and 2025 took into account the monitoring of these tracking indicators.

Conclusion: The ILO/WHO HealthWISE approach has enabled the implementation of an OSH program for healthcare workers to promote their health and well-being at work, quality care and patient safety.

Keywords: HealthWISE, Occupational safety and health, Healthcare workers, Togo.

CA11	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Approaches and strategies for occupational risk prevention
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SEX WORKERS AT THE ARTISANAL GOLD MINE IN BOUDA (BURKINA FASO): BETWEEN EXPOSURE TO INFECTIOUS RISKS AND MEANS OF ADAPTATION.

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Introduction: Sex work is a high-risk occupation that spans different eras and environments, including artisanal mining. The objective of this research is to analyse the infectious risks incurred and the means of adaptation among sex workers at the artisanal gold mining site of Bouda in northern Burkina Faso. The Bouda site employs more than a hundred identified prostitutes.

Methods: The study takes a qualitative approach, based on a review of the literature and empirical work involving interviews with sixty-three (63) stakeholders at the Bouda mining site.

Findings: The research findings reveal unanimous agreement among miners regarding the usefulness of this profession in their sector of activity. However, field data also show that sex workers regularly face threats, physical or sexual violence, and infectious disease risks. To cope with socio-health risks, sex workers in Bouda develop coping mechanisms, such as living off-site and using female condoms, which are perceived as a weapon that provides greater safety. Indeed, the clients of these prostitutes do not always have the same motivations, and some find it difficult to accept condom use.

Conclusion: Pre-positioning female condoms is a means of protection that allows prostitutes to adapt to refusal and possible sexual violence, as well as reducing the risk of infection and preventing unwanted pregnancies.

Keywords: Mining - Prostitution - Risks - Adaptation.

**SUB-THEME NO 4: WORKING
CONDITIONS , AND
CARDIOVASCULAR AND
RESPIRATORY HEALTH OF
WORKERS**

**POSTER
PRESENTATIONS**

CA12	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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STUDY OF WORKING CONDITIONS IN A METALLURGICAL COMPANY IN ABIDJAN IN 2024

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Introduction: Metallurgy is an essential industry that affects many aspects of life, from automotive manufacturing to aviation and electronics. However, during metallurgical activities, employees are exposed to various risks that can lead to accidents and occupational diseases.

Methods: We conducted a six-month descriptive cross-sectional study of working conditions in a metalworking company in Abidjan in 2024. Data on the premises, working environment and workers were collected using observation methods, hazard measurements (metrology) and a structured questionnaire.

Findings: Our study covered 246 workers, 96.75% of whom were male, with an average age of 38.93. More than one-third of the workers (41.46%) had been employed at the factory for more than 10 years. From an ergonomic risk perspective, more than a third of employees (38.27%) had to sit and stand while performing their tasks, and 34.84% carried heavy loads. Work-related accidents were found in 39.84% of workers, and more than a quarter (34.69%) involved the upper limbs. The measurements taken revealed noise levels ranging from 80.7 to 98.4 dB and dust concentration levels from 3.43 to 1983ug/m³. More than half of employees (58.78%) were exposed to biological hazards. As for psychosocial risks, nearly half of those surveyed (49.19%) were subject to mental and physical fatigue. Personal protective measures were adequate.

Conclusion: The metallurgy sector is exposed to numerous risks, hence the need to improve working conditions. Efforts to combat these various risks must include collective and individual technical measures as well as appropriate medical monitoring.

Keywords: Metallurgy, Working conditions, Occupational hazards, Abidjan.

CA13	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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STUDY OF OBSTRUCTIVE SLEEP APNEA SYNDROME IN TRUCK DRIVERS OF A FREIGHT TRANSPORT COMPANY IN IVORY COAST IN 2024

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Introduction: OSAS is one of the main causes of excessive daytime sleepiness, fatigue and reduced alertness, thereby increasing the risk of accidents at work, particularly road accidents. Objective: To study obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome in truck drivers.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional analytical study of obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome in truck drivers working for a freight transport company in Côte d'Ivoire.

Findings: This study involved 102 male lorry drivers (100%). The average age was 39.2 years $\pm$ 7.4. A high risk of obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome was found in 7.84% of cases. The Epworth scale detected 58.9% of cases of daytime sleepiness. The high probability of developing obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome was linked to obesity (OR=10.1) and alcohol consumption (OR=0.1).

Conclusion: The results show that lorry drivers are at risk of obstructive sleep apnoea syndrome. Compliance with driving and rest times for lorry drivers, raising awareness among drivers about healthy eating, exercise and the need for sufficient sleep are essential for the prevention of OSAS.

Keywords: Sleep apnoea, risk factors, prevention, lorry drivers.

CA14	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF RESPIRATORY SYMPTOMS IN WORKERS AT A TEXTILE FIBRE MANUFACTURING COMPANY IN BANFORA (BURKINA FASO) IN 2023

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Affiliation: UFR SMA Felix Houphouet Boigny University

Introduction: The textile industry plays an important role in the economy. Objective: To study respiratory symptoms among workers at a textile manufacturing company in Banfora (Burkina Faso). Burkinabe.

Methods: We conducted a prospective, cross-sectional, analytical study over six months (January to June 2023). We collected socio-professional and medical data on workers and measured cotton dust levels in the workplace.

Findings: Our study revealed high dust levels at the factory during the ginning season, ranging from 160 $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^3$ to over 2000 $\mu\text{m}/\text{m}^3$, depending on the factory sub-stations. These figures exceed the permissible occupational exposure limit of 25 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$. Preventive measures were insufficient, with the provision of unsuitable masks. The main respiratory symptoms found were dyspnoea, coughing and chest pain, in proportions of 51.35%, 37.83% and 10.82% respectively. Ventilatory disorders such as obstructive, restrictive and mixed syndromes were found in 34.49%, 3.88% and 1.29% of respondents, respectively. A statistically significant link was found between respiratory symptoms and spirometry abnormalities on the one hand, and occupational category on the other.

Conclusion: Exposure to cotton dust poses risks in the workplace. The implementation of an occupational health and safety policy, with the involvement of all stakeholders, is necessary to reduce the risks of exposure.

Keywords: respiratory symptoms, cotton dust, textile industry, Banfora.

CA15	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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MEDICO-LEGAL STUDY OF OCCUPATIONAL RESPIRATORY DISEASES AT THE BOUAKÉ UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL CENTRE, CÔTE D'IVOIRE

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Introduction: Occupational respiratory diseases have significant socio-economic repercussions in the world of work.

Methods: This was a prospective cross-sectional descriptive study conducted from 15 March to 15 September 2021. Consultation and hospitalisation records enabled us to identify patients with respiratory diseases listed in the MPI table. A questionnaire was used to collect socio-professional, medical and medico-legal data. The data were analysed using EPI info7.0 software.

Findings: We identified 19 patients, mostly men (sex ratio = 8.5), with a mean age of 55.84 ± 16.35 years (range 32 to 82 years). Workers over the age of 60 accounted for 47.36% of the workforce. So-called 'intellectual and scientific' professions accounted for 36.84% of cases. The average length of professional activity was 22.10 ± 12.74 years. Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease was the main condition observed (47.37%). Chemical hazards were the main risk factors described (79%). Respiratory diseases were predominant among workers in the private sector (57.89%). In 31.58% of cases, the respiratory diseases identified were work-related. However, in 78.95% of cases, they were not reported for compensation purposes. Medical expenses were covered by patients in 47.37% of cases. The corresponding occupational disease tables were Tables No. 10, No. 40 and No. 43 in equal proportions (10.52%).

Conclusion: Occupational respiratory diseases are underdiagnosed and underreported. It is important to train doctors on the diagnostic process and procedures for reporting occupational diseases.

Keywords: Respiratory disease, occupational disease, compensation, reporting, Bouaké.

CA16	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN THE WORKPLACE IN AFRICA: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW AND META-ANALYSIS.

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Introduction: Non-communicable diseases, particularly cardiovascular diseases and cancers, are a major cause of morbidity and premature mortality in populations worldwide and in Africa. High blood pressure (HBP) is a major modifiable risk factor (RF) responsible for many premature deaths. However, data on the prevalence of HBP among the working population in Africa remain limited and fragmented. This systematic review aims to estimate the overall prevalence of HBP in the workplace in Africa and to identify the main associated RFs.

Methods: This review followed the PRISMA guidelines. Studies published between 1 January 2010 and 30 June 2025 were searched in PubMed/MEDLINE, Embase and African Index Medicus. Observational studies conducted among African workers aged 18 years and older were included. Article selection was performed independently by two researchers, first on abstracts and then on full texts. Data extraction and study quality assessment will also be performed independently by two researchers. Analyses will be performed using STATA 15.1. The overall prevalence of hypertension (systolic blood pressure ≥ 140 mmHg, diastolic blood pressure ≥ 90 mmHg, or antihypertensive treatment) will be estimated using a random-effects meta-analysis model. Heterogeneity and publication bias will be assessed using Cochrane's χ^2 test and Egger's test.

Findings: A total of 2,084 articles were identified. After selection based on abstracts and then full texts, 115 studies were retained. They cover several sub-regions of Africa and various occupational sectors.

Conclusion: This review will provide an updated summary of the burden of hypertension in the African workplace. The expected results will help to identify the most vulnerable populations and contexts and guide policies for prevention and health promotion in the workplace.

Keywords: Hypertension, Workers, Systematic review, Meta-analysis, Africa.

CA17	Type of presentation: Poster presentation Sub-theme: Working conditions, cardiovascular and respiratory health of workers.
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TREATMENT OF HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE IN AGRICULTURAL BUSINESSES: CAN THE NUMBERS BE CONTROLLED IN 3 MONTHS?

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Introduction: Hypertension is a public health problem that affects both developed and developing countries. Senegal is making significant progress in the fight against this disease, particularly by strengthening primary healthcare management capacities. Blood pressure control in the three months following treatment is an important pillar of the strategy. The objective of this study was to evaluate blood pressure control in the three months following the start of treatment in an occupational health department of an agricultural company.

Methods: From January 2021 to July 2023, we systematically performed confirmatory ABPM on all workers with grade 1 or 2 hypertension without signs of complications, followed by ABPM three months after the start of treatment on all workers undergoing treatment. We used a Contec device.

Findings: There were 41 ABPMs as part of the evaluation of antihypertensive treatment. This indication accounted for 38% of the ABPMs performed. The average age was 46.9 years. Grade 3 hypertension accounted for 12.2% and grade 1 for 56.1%. The treatments initiated consisted of monotherapy (amlodipine 5 or 10 mg) in 51.2% of cases and dual therapy (amlodipine + ACE inhibitor) in 48.8% of cases. 57.2% of patients on monotherapy were not controlled, as were 40% of workers on dual therapy. Blood pressure was controlled in only 21 workers (52.2%).

Discussion: Controlling blood pressure readings within 3 months is a challenge in the treatment of hypertension. This control is a global issue [8,9]. In fact, only 50% of hypertensive patients are controlled in Spain, 38% in Burkina Faso, 7% in sub-Saharan Africa and 2.7% in Togo [9–12]. In Senegal, a survey conducted in Dakar found that 32.14% of hypertensive patients undergoing treatment had their blood pressure controlled [13]. The STEPS survey, conducted throughout the country, found an alarming 2.7% control rate. The blood pressure control rate found at the SCL is much higher than that described in the literature. The difference could be because our study population consisted of known and regularly monitored workers, but above all, that blood pressure control was assessed on the basis of ABPM. In any case, the levels of blood pressure control in hypertensive patients undergoing treatment are a cause for concern for all practitioners. These low levels could be related to therapeutic inertia, lack of training, limited access to ABPM, etc.

Conclusion: The objective of controlling blood pressure within three months of treatment was far from being achieved. Much work remains to be done to train healthcare personnel in peripheral healthcare facilities to manage hypertension. As the diagnosis of hypertension is likely to be an objective that has been achieved, policies should focus on strengthening skills in its management.

Keywords: Hypertension, ABPM, blood pressure target, cardiovascular, work.

**SUB-THEME NO 5:
OCCUPATIONAL
DERMATOLOGICAL , ENT ,
AND MUSCULOSKELETAL
DISORDERS**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C041	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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STUDY OF LOW BACK PAIN IN WORKERS USING DISPLAY SCREENS IN A MOBILE TELEPHONE COMPANY IN ABIDJAN IN 2024

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Introduction: Low back pain is a major health problem in the workplace. The objective was to study low back pain among workers using display screens in a mobile phone company in Abidjan in 2024.

Methods: A cross-sectional analytical study was conducted from January 2024 to July 2025 (18 months) on common low back pain among workers using display screens in a mobile phone company in Abidjan in 2024. Data were collected using a self-administered questionnaire and observations of employees at work.

Findings: A total of 237 workers were included in the study. The average age was 42 ± 8.3 years, with a predominance of males (56.96%). They were managers (66.67%) with between 5 and 10 years of professional experience (61.60%). More than half of our study population (61.18%) worked at a computer screen for 6 to 8 hours a day with a low monitor (39%), an unsuitable chair (60.76%) and high stress levels (73.42%). The prevalence of common low back pain was 91.56%. Among those affected, 36.87% reported severe pain resulting in 391 lost working days. This low back pain led to workplace adjustments for 17 workers (7.83%). Factors associated with the risk of developing common low back pain were working hours > 8 hours ($p=0.01$), keyboard positions that were too low ($p=0.001$) and too high ($p=0.001$), and age ≥ 42 years ($p=0.017$). However, keyboard position at the correct height was a protective factor against the occurrence of low back pain ($p=0.001$).

Conclusion: It appears essential to implement preventive measures, in particular ergonomic workstation adjustments.

Keywords: Prevalence, Common low back pain, Ergonomics, Display screen, Abidjan.

C042	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and musculoskeletal disorders: STORLOAP
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EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY OF MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS IN 2025 IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE: THE CASE OF TEACHERS FROM THE PRIMARY EDUCATION INSPECTORATE (IEP) IN PORT-BOUËT.

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Affiliation: UFR SMA- Félix Houphouët-Boigny University

Introduction: MSDs are a public health problem, and the education and training sector is one of the most affected. Objective: To study musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) among primary school teachers (IEP) in Port-Bouët.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional analytical study conducted over three months in 2025 among primary school teachers in Port-Bouët. Data were collected using a questionnaire covering sociodemographic, professional, medical and psychosocial aspects. Chi² and Fisher's tests were used to identify factors associated with MSDs ($p < 0.05$).

Findings: The study included 423 primary school teachers, mostly women (54.9%), with a mean age of 41 ± 9.7 years. The prevalence of MSDs was 80.5%, dominated by low back pain (51.2%) and shoulder pain (39%). MSDs had a significant functional impact: decreased performance (48.8%), medical consultations (36.6%), work stoppages (24.4%), and hospitalisations (12.2%). Risk factors significantly associated with MSDs included repetitive movements ($p = 0.02$), prolonged static postures ($p = 0.02$ for standing, $p = 0.03$ for sitting), number of classes taught ($p < 0.001$), and physical inactivity ($p = 0.01$).

Conclusion: Musculoskeletal disorders are common among primary school teachers in Port-Bouët. An integrated prevention approach involving teachers, the IEP and the occupational physician is essential to improve working conditions and reduce the morbidity associated with MSDs.

Keywords: MSDs, teachers, ergonomics, Côte d'Ivoire.

C043	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and musculoskeletal disorders: STORLOAP
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PRÉVALENCE DES TROUBLES MUSCULO-SQUELETTIQUES CHEZ LE PERSONNEL DU CENTRE HOSPITALIER UNIVERSITAIRE DE ZONE DE SURU-LERE EN 2025

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Introduction: Musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) are conditions related to musculoskeletal overuse. They represent a real public health problem due to their impact on the health and productivity of hospital staff.

Objective: To determine the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders among staff at the Suru-Léré Regional University Hospital Centre (CHUZ-SL) in 2025.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted between May and July 2025 among CHUZ-SL staff. It included all staff with at least one year's seniority who gave their informed consent. They were given a questionnaire based on the INRS MSD questionnaire (version 2000), a physical examination and X-rays of the painful areas reported. The data collected were analysed using EPI INFO version 7.2.1.0 and SPSS version 25 software.

Findings: A total of 130 workers were included, of whom 63.1% were women, giving a sex ratio of 0.58. The average age was 39.6+/- 9.2 years. The overall prevalence of work-related MSDs was 53.8%. The occupational category most at risk was nurses (21.4%). In terms of the areas affected, the cervical and lumbar spine ranked first with an equal prevalence of 38.5%, followed by the thoracic spine with 34.6%; shoulders (16.2%), knees (16.2%), hips (10.8%), elbows (3.31%), wrists (2.3%) and ankles (2.3%). Of the 70 reported cases of MSDs, 24 (34.3%) had undergone an X-ray. Among these, 70.8% had abnormalities, which were predominantly in the lumbar spine (70.6%). Spinal osteoarthritis was the most common abnormality (76.5%).

Conclusion: The high prevalence of MSDs found in our study population shows that it is necessary to strengthen preventive measures and improve conditions for hospital workers.

Keywords: Musculoskeletal disorders, prevalence, CHUZ-SL, Cotonou.

C044	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH ROTATOR CUFF SYNDROME IN MIDWIVES, MAIEUTICIANS AND ASSISTANT MIDWIVES IN THE CITY OF BOBO-DIOULASSO, BURKINA FASO, IN 2024.

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Affiliation: 1. Alassane Ouattara University - Ivory Coast, 2. Burkina Faso Workers' Health Office, 3. Félix Houphouët-Boigny University, Ivory Coast.

Introduction: Rotator cuff syndrome (RCS) is a common but underestimated musculoskeletal disorder among midwives, obstetricians and auxiliary birth attendants. The objective was to determine the prevalence and factors associated with rotator cuff syndrome among midwives, obstetricians and auxiliary birth attendants in the city of Bobo-Dioulasso in 2024.

Methods: A descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study was conducted from 1 November to 31 December 2024 in six health centres in Bobo-Dioulasso. Data were collected using the Nordic questionnaire (2001 version) adapted to musculoskeletal disorders of the shoulder, and the diagnosis was confirmed according to the SALTSA protocol. Statistical analysis was performed using EPI INFO 7.2.6.0, using univariate logistic regression to identify associated factors.

Findings: A total of 116 participants were included, with a mean age of 42.8 ± 5.3 years. Women accounted for 80.17% of the sample. Overweight and obesity affected 35% and 43% of participants, respectively. The average length of service was 12.35 years ± 6.2 . The prevalence of SCR over 12 months was 62.06%, and over 7 days was 37.94%. More than 70% of staff had little knowledge of preventive measures. Gender, age, body mass index, length of service, number of deliveries per day, number of hours worked per week and shift work were not associated with SCR.

Conclusion: RSI is common among maternity professionals in Bobo-Dioulasso. Although none of the factors studied were associated with RSI, the low level of knowledge of preventive measures observed among participants is a health issue in the workplace.

Keywords: Rotator cuff syndrome, Musculoskeletal disorders, Midwives, Maieuticians, Auxiliary birth attendants.

C045	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS IN THE INFORMAL ECONOMY: THE CASE OF MOTORCYCLE TAXI DRIVERS IN THE DISTRICT OF BAMAKO, MALI.

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Introduction: As occupational health and safety are largely neglected in the informal economy, we decided to assess musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) among motorcycle taxi drivers in the Bamako District of Mali.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted from March to June 2023 among 246 motorcycle taxi drivers in Bamako, Mali, using the INRS 2000 MSD questionnaire, adapted for this study.

Findings: Distribution by gender: 0.81% were women and 99.19% were men, with a sex ratio of 122. Average age: 31.34 ± 8.46 years. Marital status: 67.89% were married. Level of education: 38.62% had a secondary level of education. Employment status: 53.25% were self-employed. Average length of service in the profession: 1.6 ± 1 year. Average daily working hours: 12.6 ± 2.96 hours. Average daily income: 4489.83 ± 1837.50 CFA francs. Prevalence of MSDs: 93.90%. Areas most affected by MSDs: lower back (80.89%), right shoulder (74.39%), left shoulder (71.14%) and upper back (44.31%). Stress was associated with the occurrence of MSDs in general ($P < 0.001$). Specific correlations: manual handling was correlated with MSDs in the lower back ($P = 0.011$), while daily working hours were correlated with MSDs in the left shoulder ($P = 0.034$), as was lying down on the motorcycle taxi ($P = 0.045$). However, age, length of service, daily exercise in a parallel profession and road conditions were not associated with MSDs.

Conclusion: With a prevalence of 93.90%, MSDs represent a serious public health problem among motorcycle taxi drivers in Bamako, requiring urgent preventive measures and, perhaps, an extension of this study to other occupations in the informal economy.

Keywords: MSDs, Motorcycle taxis, Informal economy, Bamako, Mali.

C046	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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BILATERAL HEARING LOSS AMONG CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN BENIN IN 2023

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Introduction: The construction and public works sector in Benin is characterised by the coexistence of formal and informal activities, exposing workers to various occupational hazards, including noise. The objective of this study was to estimate the frequency and identify the factors associated with bilateral hearing loss among workers at a hospital construction site in Benin.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was conducted on a sample of 132 workers selected at random. The sample size was calculated using Schwartz's formula, adjusted to the construction site population. Bilateral hearing loss was defined as hearing loss greater than 20 dB in the better ear. Sociodemographic and occupational data were collected using a standardised questionnaire. Statistical analyses focused on calculating medians and proportions and searching for associations using chi-square and Fisher's tests, with a threshold of $p < 0.05$.

Findings: The study population was predominantly male (95.5%), with a median age of 30 years (27–38), and 76.5% had at least a secondary education. Nearly 64.4% were permanent workers and 69.7% had ≥ 5 years of seniority. The sound levels measured ranged from 52 to 107 dB depending on the workstation. The prevalence of bilateral hearing loss was 16.7%. Length of service in the job exceeding two years was significantly associated with bilateral hearing loss ($p = 0.032$).

Conclusion: These results highlight the need to strengthen audiometric monitoring and noise risk prevention on construction sites in Benin, particularly among the most senior workers.

Keywords: Construction, occupational noise, bilateral hearing loss, length of service.

C047	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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ASSESSMENT OF NOISE EXPOSURE FOR MACHINE OPERATORS AT AN OPEN-PIT GOLD MINE IN COTE D'IVOIRE IN 2022.

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Introduction: Operators of open-pit gold mining equipment are exposed to noise levels that can impair their hearing and overall health. This study aimed to assess the noise exposure levels to which they are exposed and to determine the consequences for their health.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted from October 2022 to March 2023 among machine operators who had been employed for more than one year in an open-pit gold mine in Côte d'Ivoire. Only workers with a complete medical file, including an audiogram performed during the 2022 medical examination, were included. Data were collected from questionnaires, medical files, and the HSE department's metrology and prevention records.

Findings: In total, the study included 80 operators with an average age of 37.06 ± 8.2 years. Among them, 78.75% worked 12 hours a day and 65% had more than 10 years of seniority. Auditory symptoms were reported in 43.75% of participants, mainly tinnitus and a feeling of fullness in the ears, while 37.5% had extra-auditory symptoms such as headaches and cardiovascular disorders. The measured noise levels reached 102.9 dB in the primary crusher engine area. Two-thirds of the drivers used machines equipped with noise and vibration-insulated cabins, while the remaining third wore earplugs. All received training on noise-related risks and medical monitoring. Audiometry identified eight cases of hearing loss, including five cases of bilateral sensorineural hearing loss. All of these were occupational diseases.

Conclusion: The study reveals significant noise exposure exceeding recommended thresholds, with notable auditory and extra-auditory impacts. Strengthening preventive measures, improving the acoustic insulation of machinery and promoting the rigorous use of hearing protection are essential to preserve the health of machine operators.

Keywords: Noise, Metrology, Deafness, Mine, Côte d'Ivoire.

C048	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW BACK PAIN IN BUS DRIVERS OF A PUBLIC TRANSPORT COMPANY IN OUAGADOUGOU IN 2024

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Introduction: Bus drivers are a population particularly exposed to the risk of low back pain due to long hours of driving, prolonged static postures and stressful working conditions. This study aimed to estimate the prevalence of low back pain and identify associated factors among bus drivers in Burkina Faso.

Methods: A cross-sectional analytical study was conducted over a six-month period among bus drivers working for a public transport company in Ouagadougou in 2024. Sociodemographic, professional and clinical data were collected using a structured questionnaire based on the Nordic questionnaire. Bivariate analyses, followed by logistic regression, were performed. The significance threshold was set at 5%.

Findings: A total of 153 bus drivers, 98.04% of whom were male, participated in the study. The mean age was 39.10 ± 8.35 years. More than half (54.90%) had a secondary education and 49.67% had between 1 and 5 years of professional experience. The majority of drivers (80.39%) drove more than 8 hours a day and 79.08% of drivers did not have adjustable seats. The prevalence of low back pain was 73.86%. Low back pain was significantly associated with regular physical activity (OR = 0.16; 95% CI [0.05–0.50]; $p = 0.002$), prolonged sitting (OR = 49.14; 95% CI [6.52–370.19]; $p < 0.001$). Low back pain had necessitated time off work for 17.79% of drivers, with an average of 6.7 (10.19) days off work, and had led to a job transfer for 5 people, or 4.42% of workers.

Conclusion: Ergonomic and organisational preventive measures are essential to limit the occurrence of low back pain and its repercussions among bus drivers.

Keywords: Low back pain, bus drivers, associated factors, Ouagadougou.

C049	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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PREVALENCE AND FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW BACK PAIN IN HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN TOGO

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Introduction: Low back pain is pain that affects the area between the lower edge of the ribs and the buttocks. It can occur at any age and is a real public health problem. This study aims to contribute to improving the health conditions of health professionals in Togo.

Methods: This is a cross-sectional study conducted from 1 October to 30 November 2024 involving 109 health workers from the Sanguéra, Legbassito and Agoe-Elavagnon health centres.

Findings: Of the 109 respondents, the prevalence of low back pain was 77.98%, of whom 71.56% were women. The main professional profiles of the respondents were midwives (40.37%) and nurses (27.77%). The average age of respondents with low back pain was 41 years [25 to 55 years]. 76.47% of those with low back pain were receiving medication, 17.43% were aware of hygiene rules; 62.35% were unable to work and 17.43% had their job adjusted. Finally, there is a significant relationship between the onset of low back pain and BMI ($p=0.0138$) on the one hand and the care unit ($p=0.0347$) on the other.

Conclusion: The impact of low back pain on the professional lives of carers justifies raising their awareness of the associated factors and preventive measures.

Keywords: Low back pain, Caregivers, Associated factors, Agoe-Nyivé, Togo.

C050	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Occupational dermatological, ENT and osteoarticular disorders: STORLOAP
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OCCUPATIONAL RISK FACTORS FOR HYPERSENSITIVITY TO LATEX GLOVES AMONG HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN OUAGADOUGOU

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Introduction: Latex, used in the manufacture of gloves and other products, can cause allergic skin conditions such as dermatitis and urticaria. Although hypersensitivity to latex is recognised in some countries as an occupational disease, its management remains inadequate, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa. The objective was to study the risk factors for hypersensitivity to latex gloves among healthcare workers in Ouagadougou.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted from July to December 2023. Data were collected using a questionnaire, and if the questionnaire data suggested hypersensitivity to latex gloves, a prick test was performed.

Findings: Among 240 participants, 52.5% were female, and the mean age was 30 years, with a standard deviation of 18.75. Nurses accounted for 34.17% of participants, and general practitioners accounted for 6.25%. Approximately 59.17% of healthcare workers had skin lesions, often located on the hands (35.21%). In addition, 71.66% of respondents had a history of atopy, with frequent manifestations of rhinitis and conjunctivitis. Latex gloves and bleach were reported as allergenic factors. Regarding hypersensitivity to latex, 27/91 healthcare professionals who presented clinical signs had a positive latex prick test. Of these, 9 worked in emergency departments and operating theatres. Twelve of the 27 agents with 5 to 10 years' seniority were sensitised to latex, and 22 out of 27 of those with manifestations of atopy.

Conclusion: Latex hypersensitivity is an occupational health problem in Ouagadougou's university hospitals, and the risk factors identified were related to the workplace and seniority, in a context of atopy.

Keywords: Hypersensitivity; latex; atopy; workplace; seniority.

**SUB-THEME NO 6:
WORKPLACE STRESS AND
OTHER MENTAL HEALTH
DISORDERS AMONG
WORKERS , STRPS (PART 1)**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C051	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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CHARACTERISTICS OF VIOLENCE AMONG BANK EMPLOYEES IN BURKINA FASO

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Introduction: Workers in the banking sector are exposed to violence in the course of their professional activities. This violence can take many forms. The study aimed to determine the characteristics of violence among bank employees in Bobo-Dioulasso.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted from 2 January 2024 to 20 December 2024 among workers at five banks in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso.

Findings: The study involved 170 employees with a mean age of 37.84 ± 8.29 years and a sex ratio of 1.24. The majority of participants, 90 (52.94%), were married. Those with less than 10 years' experience in their job accounted for 77.06%, or 131 employees. Half of the employees (50%) were subject to on-call duty. The prevalence of violence in the last 12 months was 24.71%, or 42 victims. The majority of cases, 36 (85.72%), involved external violence, and 41 cases (97.62%) of assaults took place within the bank. Psychological violence was the most common form of violence, affecting 41 victims (97.62%). As for the time of day when the violence occurred, 27 cases (64.29%) took place between 7:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., and the perpetrator was a bank customer in 66.66% of cases (28 workers). Violence occurred in 28 workers (47.46%) as a result of customer impatience.

Conclusion: Violence is a high risk for bank employees in Bobo-Dioulasso. These are mainly cases of psychological violence. This violence is mainly linked to the impatience of bank customers. Prevention should take into account measures to reduce customer waiting times.

Keywords: Violence, Characteristics, Banks, Burkina Faso.

C052	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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WORKING CONDITIONS AND WORK-RELATED STRESS AMONG MIDWIVES IN DOUALA.

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Introduction: Stress is common in the workplace and can affect all occupational categories, including midwives. This study aimed to investigate the influence of working conditions on the occurrence of occupational stress among midwives in Douala.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional analytical study. It was conducted during the first quarter of 2020 in public and private maternity wards in the city of Douala. All practising midwives with more than six months' experience in the maternity ward were included. The data were processed and analysed using Excel 2013 and SPSS 20.0 statistical software. The error threshold was set at 5% and the significance level at $p < 0.05$.

Findings: Women predominated in the sample (98%). Working conditions were characterised by excessive workload (51.1%), insufficient income (97.8%) and shift work (79.4%). All midwives were exposed to biological and mechanical risks. Almost all worked under pressure (92.8%), were exposed to conflicts with patients (54.6%), and almost all had experienced physical violence at work (89.3%). The prevalence of occupational stress was high (65%) with high psychological demands (94%) and low decision latitude (65%). Occupational stress was associated with monthly incomes $< 100,000$ CFA francs ($p = 0.02$) and physical violence ($p = 0.03$).

Conclusion: Conclusion: The difficult working conditions of midwives in maternity wards in the city of Douala contribute to the onset of occupational stress. Improving these conditions would prevent the development of chronic stress and its physical and socio-professional consequences.

Keywords: working conditions, stress, midwife, Douala.

C053	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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PSYCHOLOGICAL DISTRESS AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN DOUALA.

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Introduction: Psychological distress is a condition that can affect the mental health and work capacity of any worker, and specifically healthcare workers. This study aimed to investigate the epidemiological characteristics of psychological distress among healthcare workers in the city of Douala.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional analytical study. It was conducted during the first half of 2023 at Laquintinie Hospital and Military Hospital Region No. 2 in Douala. All healthcare workers who volunteered at the two target hospitals were included in the study. Data collection was carried out using a questionnaire summarising socio-professional and psychological data and working conditions. We measured the level of psychological distress using the Kessler scale. The analysis was performed using Chi-2 tests and multivariate analysis. Error threshold $\alpha=5\%$, $p < 5\%$.

Findings: The participation rate was 86.3%. Women (81.7%) predominated in the sample. The average age was 35.38 ± 8.91 years, and those in their thirties accounted for 46.79% of the workforce. Nurses were in the majority (77.63%). The prevalence of psychological distress was 19.5%. It was mild (48.72%), moderate (18.46%) or severe (32.82%). Risk factors for psychological distress were Catholic religion (OR= 3.6; $p = 0.04$), poor sleep quality (OR = 3.9; $p < 0.001$) and long working hours (OR = 2.2; $p = 0.002$), while working overtime was the only protective factor (OR = 0.6; $p = 0.04$).

Conclusion: One-fifth of healthcare workers in these hospitals are affected by psychological distress, which is exacerbated by poor working conditions. Improving these conditions is imperative in order to prevent more severe consequences.

Keywords: psychological distress, healthcare workers, hospitals, Douala.

C054	Type of presentation: Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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STUDY OF PROFESSIONAL EXHAUSTION (BURNOUT) AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN THE KLOTO HEALTH DISTRICT IN TOGO

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Introduction: The extent of occupational risks, including burnout in the health sector, is a major occupational health and safety issue. The objective of this study was to assess the level of occupational burnout among healthcare workers in healthcare facilities in the Kloto health district in Togo.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted in September 2022 in the Kloto district (Togo). A non-probabilistic method was used, with a reasoned selection for health facility managers and a convenience selection for healthcare providers. Approved health facilities that submit activity reports to the DPS and have been in existence for at least two years were included in our study using the Malash Burnout Inventory (MBI) to assess the level of occupational burnout. The analysis was performed using Fisher's chi-square test.

Findings: A total of 292 health workers from 36 FS were included. The most represented age group was [30-45 [predominantly female at 60.1%. The average age was 40 with a standard deviation of ± 7.05 . Burnout scores were moderate for 35.40% and high for 21.43%. The personal fulfilment scale showed a rate of 69.3% with a low score. This rate was higher than the proportion of subjects in the exhaustion phase diagnosed by the first scale, confirming the hypothesis of latent burnout in at least 56.83% of the workers surveyed. According to the burnout classification, moderate or even high scores are a sign of latent or developing burnout. A subject who scores high on the first two scales and low on the last is currently experiencing burnout. If they score low on the first two scales and high on the last, they are far from being exhausted.

Conclusion: The level of latent burnout was confirmed in more than half of healthcare workers. Actions to improve mental health at work are essential.

Keywords: Burnout, Healthcare workers, Kloto, Togo.

C055	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme : Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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STUDY ON WORKPLACE QUALITY OF LIFE AMONG HOSPITAL STAFF AT ANGRE TEACHING HOSPITAL IN 2025

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Introduction: Improving the workplace quality of life (WQoL) among hospital staff has a positive impact on the quality of care provided to patients. The objective of this study was to assess workplace quality of life among staff at Angré Teaching Hospital in 2025.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional and analytical study conducted over a 6-month period from December 2024 to May 2025 and focused on the workplace quality of life of hospital staff at Angré Teaching Hospital. WQoL was assessed using a self-administered questionnaire (Work-Related Quality of Life Scale). Qualitative data were described using proportions, while quantitative data were described using means and standard deviations. Pearson's chi-square test was used for analytical assessment. The significance threshold was set at 5%.

Findings: The study included 365 hospital staff members, predominantly female (57.5%) with a sex ratio of 0.73. The mean age was 38.30 ± 7.342 years. The workers mainly came from technical services (20%) and administration (19.7%). The study revealed that 28.8% of the participants had a good workplace quality of life. Employees with longer commuting times were 1.89 times more likely to have a poor workplace quality of life compared to those with less than one hour of commuting time (OR = 1.899; 95% CI = 1.168–3.088). Furthermore, workers belonging to a medical department were 2.39 times more likely to have a poor workplace quality of life (OR = 2.398; 95% CI = 1.127–5.103).

Conclusion: This study highlighted the perceived level of workplace quality of life among hospital staff and identified associated factors.

Keywords: Workplace quality of life, Hospital staff, Angré Teaching Hospital.

C056	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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ASSESSMENT OF JOB SATISFACTION AMONG MEDICAL INTERNS IN CÔTE D'IVOIRE HOSPITALS IN 2024

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Introduction: Job satisfaction is an essential determinant of well-being among healthcare workers and serves as an indicator of the quality of care. Among hospital interns, training demands, workload, and organisational constraints can adversely affect satisfaction. The objective of this study was to assess job satisfaction among medical interns in Côte d'Ivoire and to identify its determining factors.

Methods: A cross-sectional analytical study was conducted between May and October 2024 in Ivorian university hospitals and specialised centres. Data were collected using an anonymous self-administered questionnaire including the 20-item Minnesota Satisfaction Questionnaire (MSQ). Bivariate analyses were performed using the Student's t-test. Linear regression was used for multivariate analysis. All analyses were carried out using SPSS version 22, with a significance threshold of $p < 0.05$.

Findings: Of 259 interns, 198 participated in the study. The mean age was 27.8 ± 2.5 years, and 58.1% were male. Most interns (93.9%) worked more than eight hours per day, with an average of 10.2 ± 1.5 hours, and 83.8% did not receive compensatory rest after night shifts. More than half (55.1%) of interns were dissatisfied, with a mean job satisfaction score of 59.5 ± 10.4 . Determinants of satisfaction included internship seniority [$B = 2.2$; 95% CI (0.89–3.61); $p = 0.001$], number of working days [$B = -3.5$; 95% CI (-6.54–-0.63); $p = 0.018$], and engagement in leisure activities [$B = 4.6$; 95% CI (1.28–8.00); $p = 0.007$].

Conclusion: Job satisfaction among medical interns in Côte d'Ivoire remains moderate and is influenced by working conditions and by the balance between personal and professional life.

Keywords: job satisfaction, medical interns, Côte d'Ivoire.

C057	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS OF STRESS AMONG HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS IN HOSPITALS IN THE PARAKOU-N'DALI HEALTH DISTRICT (BENIN), 2023

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Introduction: Stress is a psychosocial risk present across all occupational environments. Among hospital healthcare personnel, it results from high emotional demands and from the interaction between caregivers and their working environment.

Objective: To investigate factors associated with stress among healthcare professionals in hospitals within the Parakou–N'Dali health district in 2023.

Methods: This was a cross-sectional analytical study with prospective data collection from April 3 to May 2, 2023. It involved healthcare professionals working in hospitals in the Parakou–N'Dali health district. Stress was assessed using the Karasek questionnaire and burnout using the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI). Chi-square and Fisher statistical tests were used to examine associations between stress and independent variables, with a significance threshold of 5%.

Findings: A total of 566 healthcare professionals were eligible and 415 agreed to participate. The mean age was 34.4 ± 9.28 years, with a predominance of females (sex ratio = 0.50). The overall prevalence of stress was 90.6%. Healthcare professionals working in public health facilities (91.6%) and midwives (94.8%) were the most stressed. Work-related stressful situations led to burnout in 65.78% of professionals. Workload ($p = 0.024$; aOR = 0.48) and having experienced a major life event ($p = 0.008$; aOR = 0.31) were factors associated with stress.

Conclusion: The prevalence of stress was high in this study, with nearly two-thirds of healthcare professionals already experiencing burnout.

Keywords: stress, associated factors, healthcare professionals, Parakou.

**SUB-THEME NO 6:
WORKPLACE STRESS AND
OTHER MENTAL HEALTH
DISORDERS AMONG
WORKERS , STRPS (PART 2)**

**ORAL
PRESENTATIONS**

C058	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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OCCUPATIONAL STRESS AMONG MIDWIVES IN FOUR REFERRAL MATERNITY HOSPITALS IN TOGO

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Introduction: Stress may sometimes be necessary to enhance performance. However, when individuals fail to adapt to their environment or become overwhelmed in their ability to cope with constraints, negative consequences may occur. Midwives are among the most affected. The objective of this study was to describe the epidemiological profile of stress among midwives.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted over a 3-month period from April 4, 2023 to July 4, 2023. Data were collected in obstetrics and gynaecology departments using a survey form.

Findings: The mean age of midwives was 36.23 ± 8.32 years, ranging from 23 to 57 years, with the 30–40-year age group being the most represented (42.1%). The prevalence of job strain among midwives was 50%. The most common work units were the delivery room (26.3%) and postnatal care units (21.1%). Physical activity, the use of sleeping pills, and alcohol consumption were reported in 71.1%, 21%, and 5.3% of cases, respectively. Midwives reported feeling exhausted in 65.8% of cases, and 57.9% perceived their job as moderately demanding.

Conclusion: Implementing preventive measures could help reduce the consequences of stress on midwives, obstetrics and gynaecology departments, and society.

Keywords: occupational stress, midwives, prevention, Togo.

C059	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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PREVALENCE OF BURNOUT AMONG PRIMARY EDUCATION STAFF IN BOBO-DIOULASSO

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Introduction: Burnout is a public health concern that affects workers across all sectors, particularly those in primary education. The objective of this study was to determine the prevalence of burnout among primary education staff in Bobo-Dioulasso.

Methods: This was a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study conducted from 18 September 2023 to 12 July 2024 among staff in a basic education district of Bobo-Dioulasso.

Findings: A total of 229 staff members were included. The mean age was 44.99 ± 7.03 years, with a sex ratio of 0.55. Married employees represented 78.17% (179 individuals), and 207 (90.39%) worked in classrooms. Regarding working hours, 212 (92.58%) worked up to 8 hours per day. One hundred and twenty-four staff members presented with burnout, corresponding to a prevalence of 54.15%. High emotional exhaustion, high depersonalization, and low personal accomplishment scores were observed in 27.51%, 21.40%, and 45.85% of participants, respectively. In univariate analysis, age was associated with burnout ($p = 0.04$).

Conclusion: The prevalence of burnout is high among primary education staff in Bobo-Dioulasso. Preventive measures are necessary to protect their health.

Keywords: burnout, staff, primary education, Bobo-Dioulasso.

C060	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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PREVALENCE OF STRESS AMONG SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION TEACHERS IN COTONOU IN 2025

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Introduction: Teaching is recognized as a profession with high psychological demands. Numerous constraints contribute to chronic stress. The objective of this study was to investigate stress among secondary and higher education teachers in Cotonou in 2025.

Methods: This was a descriptive cross-sectional study conducted from June 16 to August 29, 2025. It included teachers from public secondary schools in Cotonou and Calavi, as well as teachers from the University of Abomey-Calavi with at least 6 months of tenure who provided consent. Stress was assessed using the Karasek questionnaire. Data analysis was performed using EPI-INFO software version 7.2.2.0.

Findings: A total of 233 teachers were included; 111 (47.7%) from higher education, 110 (47.2%) from secondary education, and 12 (5.1%) from both levels. There were 155 (66.5%) men, corresponding to a sex ratio of 1.98. The mean age was 43.4 ± 1.4 years. The prevalence of work-related stress was 30% (70 teachers), nearly half of whom (48.6%) were from secondary education and 47.1% from higher education; 4.3% taught at both levels.

Conclusion: The prevalence of stress is high among secondary and higher education teachers in Cotonou. A broader study including an assessment of the consequences of stress on teachers and learners is warranted to support the early implementation of a prevention program.

Keywords: stress, prevalence, teachers, higher education, secondary education, Cotonou.

C061	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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PREVALENCE AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS OF BURNOUT AMONG HEALTHCARE WORKERS AT THE GENERAL REFERENCE HOSPITAL OF NIAMEY, NIGER, IN 2022

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Introduction: Burnout is an emerging psychosocial risk and a syndrome that predominantly affects professions with strong emotional and interpersonal engagement. **Objective:** To assess the prevalence and associated factors of burnout among healthcare workers at the General Reference Hospital of Niamey.

Methods: This was a descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study conducted from July 2 to October 27, 2022. Sampling was non-probabilistic, and exhaustive recruitment was carried out among all healthcare workers. Data analysis was performed using R software (version 4.1.1). Univariate and multivariate logistic regression analyses were used to identify associated factors, with a significance threshold of $p < 0.05$.

Findings: A total of 252 participants were included. According to the Maslach Burnout Inventory (MBI), 73% of respondents presented with burnout. This rate is close to that reported by Badii A. et al. in Tunisia (70%) among units caring for end-of-life patients, while Bougma W.C.B. in Burkina Faso reported a lower prevalence of 48.32%. The severity of burnout was mild to moderate in nearly all subjects. The most affected dimensions were emotional exhaustion (EE = 48%) and depersonalization (DP = 39.3%), while reduced personal accomplishment (PA = 24.6%) was less frequent. High psychological demand, low decision latitude, stress, iso-strain, and night work were predictive factors of burnout.

Conclusion: Burnout is a real issue at the General Reference Hospital of Niamey. Our findings are partly consistent with the literature and highlight parameters likely to contribute to burnout. Prevention efforts should include awareness raising, the implementation of complaint management policies, and specialized follow-up, particularly for night workers.

Keywords: burnout, healthcare workers, Maslach Burnout Inventory.

C062	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and workplace mapping, STRPS
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PREVALENCE AND IMPACT OF COVID-19 IN AN OIL COMPANY IN CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE: A CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY

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Introduction: The COVID-19 pandemic profoundly disrupted health systems and workplace environments, particularly in high-risk industrial sectors such as the oil industry. This study aimed to estimate the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection and to assess its health, psychological, and organizational impacts among employees of an oil company in Congo-Brazzaville.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional survey was conducted between July and December 2020 among 647 workers. Clinical data were extracted from medical records. A self-administered questionnaire integrating the GAD-7 and PHQ-9 scales was used to assess mental health status. Statistical analysis was performed using R software, with a 5% significance threshold.

Findings: The RT-PCR confirmed COVID-19 prevalence was 18.4%. Among the cases, 72.5% were mild, 24.3% moderate, and 3.2% severe. Moderate to severe anxiety affected 36.7% of respondents, while 21.5% presented significant depressive symptoms. From an organizational standpoint, 65% of units underwent restructuring, with average absenteeism reaching 17 days among confirmed cases.

Conclusion: The epidemic had a substantial impact on workers' health and operational continuity. These findings highlight the urgent need to strengthen prevention measures, psychological support, and organizational resilience in industrial settings.

Keywords: COVID-19, mental health, organizational impact, oil industry, Congo-Brazzaville.

C063	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace, STRPS
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MANAGEMENT OF SICKNESS ABSENTEEISM IN A BREWERY COMPANY IN CAMEROON IN 2024: SITUATION ANALYSIS AND PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.

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Introduction: Sickness absenteeism is a key indicator of employees' health status and availability, and may significantly affect a company's productivity. The aim of this study was to assess sickness absenteeism in a brewery in Cameroon in 2024 through its performance indicators.

Methods: A descriptive and analytical study was conducted from January to December 2024 among 769 employees (317 permanent employees (45.94%) and 452 subcontracted workers (54.06%)). Data were extracted from medical certificates. Calculated indicators included the sickness absenteeism rate, number of days of absence, mean duration, and average number of medical leave days.

Results: A total of 686 medical certificates were collected from 582 employees, corresponding to 2485 days of absence, of which 1542 days (62%) concerned permanent employees and 943 days (38%) subcontracted workers. The overall absenteeism rate was 0.89%, with 1.33% among permanent staff and 0.57% among subcontracted workers. The mean duration of absences was 4 days and the average value was 3 days. The main causes were parasitic diseases (29.6%) and musculoskeletal disorders (14.5%), reflecting physically demanding working conditions and the need for primary prevention. In the United States in 2024, the Bureau of Labour Statistics reported a rate of 2.8% in the manufacturing sector, which is higher than ours but remains acceptable.

Conclusion: Despite a relatively low overall rate, sickness absenteeism remains a concern in a continuously functioning organization. Effective and efficient management requires the implementation of an internal procedure involving relevant stakeholders while ensuring ethical standards, and the development of a health policy emphasizing workplace wellness programs.

Keywords: Sickness absenteeism, Medical certificate, Brewery company, Health policy.

C064	Type of presentation : Oral presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace (STRPS)
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OVERVIEW OF TRADITIONAL WOODWORKING SHOPS IN THE INFORMAL SECTOR OF DOUALA CITY

Dr Beatrice KOM- S. TAYOU, Occupational Health and Safety Specialist

Introduction: Workers across all sectors are exposed to occupational hazards of various types and frequencies, depending on whether the sector is formal or informal. Occupational risk is defined as the probability that a worker exposed to a hazardous situation will suffer harmful effects on physical and mental health. The wood-processing sector in Cameroon is still emerging and develops mainly through artisanal practices. Knowledge of occupational risks among carpenters is poorly documented, highlighting the relevance of this study. Its objective was to describe carpenters' awareness of occupational hazards, as well as the practices and measures they implement to prevent these risks in their workshops.

Materials and Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted among employees of woodworking shops in Douala from June to August 2023. A non-probabilistic simple random sampling technique was used. Participants voluntarily agreed to participate, and data were collected via a structured questionnaire. Data analysis was performed using Excel 2019.

Findings: A total of 89 workers participated, with a male predominance of 95.2% and a mean age of 30 years for 90% of participants. The prevalence of work-related accidents was 85.5%, including cuts (79.5%), cough (69.9%), common cold (66.2%), and injuries (56.66%). Collective and individual protective measures were rare. The average workforce per workshop was 4.89 ± 3.47 workers. While most workers were aware of health risks (90.4%), only a minority (57.8%) knew preventive measures.

Conclusion: Occupational health and safety management in this sector remains precarious. Organisational, technical, and human-centred measures are urgently needed to prevent occupational hazards in traditional woodworking workshops.

Keywords: occupational hazards, carpentry, wood, informal sector.

**SUB-THEME N0 5 AND 6 :
OCCUPATIONAL
DERMATOLOGICAL , ENT ,
AND MUSKULOSKELETAL
DISORDER AMONG
WORKERS IN THE
WORKPLACE**

**POSTER
PRESENTATIONS**

CA18	Type of presentation : Poster presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace
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ASSESSMENT OF STRESS AMONG STAFF IN THE REFUGEE AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS SERVICES IN DAKAR

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Introduction: In emerging countries, the consequences of stress remain under-evaluated. Cumulative stress is often associated with humanitarian work, with heavy workloads frequently coupled with a lack of recognition and communication difficulties. This study aimed to assess the prevalence of stress among staff of UNHCR and OFADEC in Dakar, Senegal, and identify characteristic factors associated with stress.

Methods: A descriptive and analytical cross-sectional study was conducted over seven months. Sixty individuals were randomly selected. Using a self-administered questionnaire, sociodemographic and professional characteristics were recorded. Data entry and analysis were performed using Epi-Info 3.5.4 and Microsoft Excel 2010.

Findings: 52 staff participated: 30 from OFADEC and 22 from UNHCR, with a male predominance (sex ratio = 1.73). The population was young (20–39 years: 53.84%), 11.53% smokers, and 15.38% reporting sleep disturbances. Most (78.8%) had fixed-term contracts. Stress prevalence was 40.38% (n = 21), predominantly male (sex ratio = 2). Nearly all stressed staff (92.9%) worked in teams, and 66.7% had worked without interruption over the past 12 months. 25 staff (42.9%) felt exhausted, 12 (23.8%) anxious, 10 (19%) unwell, and 7 (14.3%) experienced multiple feelings simultaneously. Among stressed staff, 37 (71.4%) displayed aggressive attitudes, and 29 (56.7%) experienced verbal aggression.

Conclusion: Effective management of workplace stress requires implementing organisational strategies that promote workers' physical and mental health.

Keywords: humanitarian workers, stress, occupational, Dakar

CA19	Type of presentation : Poster presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace
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PREVALENCE OF STRESS AMONG OFFICE EMPLOYEES OF AN OIL COMPANY IN GABON

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Introduction: The term “psychosocial risks” is relatively recent. For many years, terms such as “stress,” “harassment,” and “work-related suffering” were more commonly used to describe these phenomena and were often considered “taboo.” These conditions have significant consequences for both employees and employers. This study aimed to determine the prevalence of psychosocial risks among office employees of an oil company in Gabon and to identify the associated determinants.

Methods: This was a prospective analytical study conducted in December 2016 among office employees of an oil company in Libreville. Stress was assessed using the Karasek model questionnaire.

Findings: A total of 65 employees out of 137 (47.45% of the source population) participated in the study. The mean age was 36.6 ± 7.6 years (range: 24–59). The sample included 56.92% men and 43.08% women, with a sex ratio of 1.32. Psychological demand was low in our study population (mean = 23.45; median = 23), while decision latitude was also low (mean = 26.86; median = 27). Employees in a Job Strain situation represented 21.54% of the sample. Managers accounted for more than half of this group (57.14%).

Conclusion: This study highlighted the presence of psychosocial risks within the company. It revealed that 21.54% of the study population experienced Job Strain, with managers being the socio-professional category most affected by this psychosocial risk.

Keywords: stress, employees, Job Strain, Iso-Strain

CA20	Type of presentation : Poster presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace
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PROCESS FOR ESTABLISHING A WORKPLACE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM FOR WORKERS IN TOGO

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Introduction: With the increasing prevalence of psychosocial risk factors, mental health in the workplace has become a major public health and occupational safety concern. This analysis aims to highlight the steps involved in establishing a national workplace mental health program.

Methods: Analysis of documents related to the implementation of the HealthWISE pilot project, occupational health and safety in emergencies, the strategic occupational health plan for healthcare workers, psychological follow-up reports for workers, and the national mental health strategic plan in Togo.

Findings: The occupational health strategic plan incorporated a mental health dimension, including activities aimed at preventing stress, workplace violence, and harassment. The development of the 2024–2027 mental health strategic plan by the National Psychoactive Substance Addiction Program provides an opportunity to strengthen this component in supporting workers. The implementation process includes a research protocol to assess the current situation and develop an action plan in collaboration with all labour stakeholders.

Conclusion: Workplace mental health is a critical issue that requires dynamic actions to establish a sustainable program for worker well-being.

Keywords: Program, Workplace mental health, Occupational health and safety, Togo

CA21	Type of presentation : Poster presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace
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HEARING LOSS IN A MILLER AT A CEMENT MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

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Introduction: Noise is a common physical hazard in the workplace, responsible for numerous conditions, including occupational hearing loss. The authors report a case of hearing loss seen in an occupational pathology consultation. The aim was to present the diagnostic approach for occupational hearing loss.

Methods: In 2012, an occupational pathology consultation was conducted at Yopougon University Hospital (CHU) for a patient referred by the National Social Security Fund to determine the occupational origin of his hearing loss. Clinical and para-clinical examination results were compared with the criteria of Table 42 of compensable occupational diseases in Côte d'Ivoire.

Findings: The patient, a miller in the grinding department of a cement manufacturing company for 10 years, presented with tinnitus and hearing loss. His prior auditory history was unremarkable. Clinical examination combined with audiometry revealed severe bilateral sensorineural hearing loss. Noise measurements in the grinding area showed a daily exposure (Lex, d) of 85 dB, with a peak level (Lpc) of 97 dB. Considering the professional history, audiogram, and workplace noise levels in accordance with Table 42 criteria for compensable occupational diseases in Côte d'Ivoire, a diagnosis of occupational hearing loss was established.

Conclusion: Occupational hearing loss is diagnosed based on the professional history, clinical examination, audiometry, and workplace noise assessment.

Keywords: Noise, Hearing loss, Occupational disease

CA22	Type of presentation : Poster presentation Sub-theme: Stress and other mental health disorders among workers in the workplace
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THE SOUND ENVIRONMENT OF CALL CENTERS IN CAMEROON: A CONTINUOUS SOURCE OF PSYCHOSOCIAL RISK REVEALED BY THE GABO ASSESSMENT

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Introduction: The growth of call centres in Africa presents chronic exposure issues to acoustic disturbances in high-density open-plan offices. This study aimed to characterise the perceptual impact of noise on call centre operators and establish correlations with indicators of perceived health.

Methods: A descriptive cross-sectional study was conducted in November 2024 among 29 call centre operators working in high-density open-plan offices, with 79% of employees located in spaces of 16–49 people. The validated GABO questionnaire (Acoustic Discomfort in Open Offices) (Pierret et al., 2015) was used. Key variables included noise sensitivity, quantification of acoustic discomfort, and symptoms of stress and fatigue.

Findings: The main risks identified affected the quality of work life:

- **Acoustic Discomfort and Sources:** 76% of respondents reported significant noise discomfort (moderate to very disturbing), primarily due to poor phonetic privacy. 72% of employees constantly perceived colleagues' conversations, and 55% felt moderately or highly disturbed by these exchanges, highlighting major cognitive interference.
- **Environmental Dissatisfaction:** 46% of respondents were dissatisfied with environmental control measures, amplifying the negative effects of noise exposure (Perrin & Chevret, 2016).
- **Impact on Health:** 21% of operators reported persistent physical symptoms and perceived stress; additionally, 39% experienced significant fatigue and 35% reported slow recovery.

Conclusion: The work environment in this call centre represents a major and quantifiable psychosocial risk, where acoustic discomfort translates into cognitive and psychological burden. We recommend implementing ergonomic engineering measures and revising open-office layout standards for call centres in Africa.

Keywords: Open-plan offices, Acoustic discomfort, Psychosocial risk, GABO questionnaire, Call centre operators