

EDITORIAL

Dear Friends of IJOMEH,

I am pleased to introduce the first issue of 2014, thereby, it is an occasion to address to you our good wishes for the New Year with hope for further successful cooperation.

The contents of this issue include 12 original articles, 3 case reports and 2 letters to editor, which I will try to cover very shortly below.

The section of original articles is opened with a paper by A.M. Dåderman and D. de Colli (Sweden) devoted to the significance of the psychological resource “sense of coherence” (SOC), which protects police officers against ill-health in stress situations. The questionnaire survey conducted among 101 subjects revealed manageability as the most important component of SOC for various coping resources in stress situations used by police officers.

Another psychological topic is brought up by D. Merez and A. Andysz (Poland). Their study was aimed at the links between complementary and supplementary dimensions of person-organization fit (P-O fit), organizational identification (OI) and negative (WHL–) vs. positive (WHL+) work-home interactions. The authors found that the effects of P-O fit and OI are not only limited to the work environment but influence private life.

Correlations between the level of physical activity and the occurrence of musculoskeletal disorders among young musicians were examined by A. Nawrocka et al. (Poland). According to expectations, pain in the neck, shoulders, upper and lower back was reported significantly more often by the musical school students who did not meet standard criteria for the minimal physical activity level.

D. Jarosińska et al. (Denmark and Poland) come up with estimating the burden of diseases attributable to

second hand smoke (SHS) exposure in children. The study showed, among others, the highest burden for asthma, lower respiratory infections, low birth weight, however, one may take into account significant limitations of the survey as the lack of up-to-date health data concerning children and the lack of precise measures reflecting actual SHS exposure.

The effect of increased daily concentration of ozone on visits to emergency department due to lower respiratory diseases (LRD) was assessed by T. Kousha and B.H. Rowe (Canada). Statistically significant association was confirmed for acute or chronic bronchitis.

Occupational exposure to second hand smoke (SHS) and resulting possible symptoms were investigated also, this time in adults, by G.N. Radwan et al. (Egypt). The cross-sectional survey of hospital workers proved that exposure to SHS at work was associated with an increased risk of wheezes, shortness of breath, irritated nose and sore throat.

The next study by E. Sovova et al. (Czech Republic) concerns also hospital staff, in which the prevalence of cardiovascular disease risk factors and their effect on the incidence of cardiovascular events was determined. The analysis of data from a large sample of 3124 health care workers indicated that cardiovascular events are most likely to occur in obese male physicians/surgeons holding managerial positions and in female managers.

Cardiovascular changes, but in the context of exposure to fine particulate dust (FPD) are the subject of the study by A. Bortkiewicz et al. (Poland). In the examination of ceramic ware factory workers exposed to FPD concentrations $11.5 \pm 1.6 \text{ mg/m}^3$ there were no abnormalities in ECG and blood pressure monitoring, however, some neurovegetative disturbances were detected, which may serve

as an early indicator of effects of FPD on cardiovascular system.

C. Supapvanich et al. (Thailand and United Kingdom) have studied latex sensitization (LS) and risk factors in female nurses. They found 4.4% overall prevalence of LS associated with respiratory symptoms which seems to play an important role in addition to dermal exposure.

An interesting paper is delivered by Z. Yuanhai et al. (China) who present the preferred method for treating hydrofluoric acid burns of the distal human limbs with the use of arterial infusions of calcium gluconate. The method turned out to be effectively relieving pain and stopping wound progressive deepening.

The results of experimental study on the chicken embryos exposed to 1800 MHz electromagnetic field (EMF) are described by K. Pawlak et al. (Poland). The findings suggest that additional 1800 MHz radiofrequency (EMF) inhibits the function of the hypothalamo-pituitary-adrenal (HPT) axis, however, it stimulates HPT axis by inducing adrenal steroidogenic cells to synthesize corticosterone.

The last, but not least, original article is devoted to the prevalence of some substance use and misuse which may negatively influence physical fitness. The authors i.e. D. Sekulic et al. (Croatia) found that, in the examined subjects of military forces with less than 40% of daily smokers, smoking was within the expected values, while almost 80% of the soldiers reported no binge drinking, and 54% confessed harmful alcohol consumption.

The section of case reports contains 3 papers.

The first one, by M. Brvar (Slovenia), depicts interstitial pneumonitis after acetylene welding, which was diagnosed in a 44-year old welder.

The second case, reported by M. Vaccaro et al. (Italy), concerns the rare simultaneous appearance of symptoms of airborne contact dermatitis and asthma in a nail art operator. The unusual case on occupational exposure to hogweed and resulting serious skin damage is presented by P. Klimaszuk et al. (Poland).

The issue is closed with as many as 2 letters to editor.

The first one, written by B. Evanoff et al. (USA and France), brings up the common health problem among working populations, namely musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), the subject often published in our bimonthly (e.g. E. Rafeemanesh et al. 2013;26(4); G. Kaliniene et al. 2013;26(5); A. Nawrocka et al. 2014;27(1)). The authors of the letter present a conceptual model of MSDs for occupational health practitioners, hopefully it might encourage further discussions.

The next letter, by S.M.J. Mortazavi (Iran), refers to the article by R. Zajdel et al. (IJOMEH 2013;26(1)) (and on the same subject in Arch Med Sci. 2012) and criticizes the reliability of their results on the effect of a ringing mobile phone on human reaction time. One may look forward, therefore, to an early reply of the authors.

We wish everybody a good time reading this interesting issue.

*Prof. Wiesław J. Sułkowski
on behalf of the Editorial Board*