Introduction to DGUV Conference on MSD

Identification of Priorities for a Prevention Campaign

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Work-related MSDs in Germany

• Approx. 24 % of all sick leave due to MSDs*

• Approx. 26,000 new invalidity pensions due to MSDs*

• Costs of loss of production - caused by MSDs - are estimated to be 9.5 Bn €*

→ MSD prevention is one of the OSH objectives in the „Common German Occupational Safety and Health Strategy“ – „GDA“

*German OSH Report 2007
MSDs as occupational diseases in Germany

- **Upper limb:**
  - Diseases due to overstraining tendon sheaths, peritendineum or muscular and tendonous insertions (2101)
  - Osteoarticular diseases of the hands and wrists caused by mechanical vibration (2103)
  - Carpal Tunnel Syndrome CTS (21XX)

- **Spine:**
  - Intervertebral disc-based diseases of the lumbar or cervical spine (2108, 2109, 2110)

- **Lower limb:**
  - Meniscus lesions (2102)
  - Knee osteoarthritis (2112)
MSD prevention activities of the DGUV

- Campaigns
- Education
- Research
- Publications
- Medical Check-up
- Company Consultancy
- Prevention Programs

Muskel-Geist-Schwachstellen
der oberen Extremität
Nehm es leicht!
Nepe in...
Prevention instrument: campaigns

- Joint campaigns of all social accident insurance institutions, regularly conducted since 2003
- General campaign objective: reduction of accidents and occupational disorders/diseases

Successful campaigns need...

- ... a SMART target (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, timely)
- ... the exact knowledge of the target-group (including all the different segments of the group)
- ... a clear and simple message
Campaign 2003/2004: „On the right foot“

- Focus on accidents due to trips, slips and falls.
- As a result the number of accidents was reduced about 26%.
Healthy Skin Campaign in 2007/2008 – The Most Important 2 m² of Your Life

- Serious economic and social consequences of skin diseases
- Approx. 100 institutions (statutory accident insurances, health insurers) carried the campaign.
- Evaluated effects:
  - Prevention measures at work improved
  - Successful press campaign
Preparing a New Campaign: Fight the Risk

- Reduction of traffic and transportation accident rate in organizational premises and public road traffic
- Campaign years 2010/2011
- Cooperation with the German Road Safety Council (DVR)
Preparation of a National Prevention Campaign on MSDs scheduled to be launched in 2013

- Starting point: High variety of MSD topics, action areas and prevention measures
- Identification of MSD topics suitable for the campaign necessary
- Assignment of the German Association of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (DGAUM) to conduct a literature review on work-related MSDs
DGAUM Literature Review: Work Packages

1. Work-related MSDs: prevalences in various occupations in Germany

2. Stress/risk factors to MSDs: Physical and psychological/psychosocial factors

3. Indices and indicators concerning the effects of particular MSDs

4. Promising, evaluated prevention methods/strategies for MSDs, listing of nationally and internationally prioritized prevention activities and research areas.
DGUV Conference on MSD

- Discussion of DGAUM literature review on MSD
- Exchange of experiences with international MSD experts
- Revealing of knowledge gaps and future MSD research areas
- Identification of relevant MSD topics that are suitable to be tackled in a campaign
DGUV Conference on MSD: Meeting of International MSD Experts from 13 Countries
DGUV Conference on MSD
16th /17th of October 2009, Dresden

Thank you for your attention!
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