

The Importance of Occupational Health

Synopsis

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Various Definitions

of

Occupational Health



According to „Psyhyrembel“

Medical direction that deals with:

- Occupational diseases
- Accidents at work
- Hygienic and
- Toxicologic tasks at work.



According to „Lexikon der Büchergilde“

Occupational health is the medical direction that deals with:

- Prevention respectively
- Treatment of occupational diseases.

It is usually performed through industrial physicians.



***According to
„Angewandte Arbeitsmedizin“ *
by E. Baumgartner***

Occupational health deals with correlation of work and health.

* Practical Occupational Health



According to the Internet

Occupational health deals with

- Correlation of work and occupation as well as with
- Human beings and their health and illnesses.



Goals and Tasks of Occupational Health

Support and maintenance of

- physical
- mental and
- social wellbeing

of employees in all professions as far as possible.



This means:

1

- Support and maintenance of
 - mental
 - social and
 - physical wellbeingof employees in their job
- To guide employees to employment which does not overtax their mental and physical abilities



This means:

2

- Protection from unhealthy hazards in the job
- Or recognition of them as soon as possible and
- Competent advice in case of occupational diseases

in order to bring these patients to competent treatment.



Responsibility of Occupational Health

- To avoid damage to health on the basis of modern knowledge and precautions
- If damage happens to help employees to be re - employed
- Should the situation arise – to seek fair compensation.



Man - Work - Safety

One must be aware of the clear context of:

- Occupational health and
- Industrial science.



Industrial Science:

Can be understood as the science of human work.

Specified – industrial science investigates

- human beings at work and
- analyzes the correlation “human beings – working world”.



Summerizing:

All this means the meeting of:

- Occupational hygienics
- Psychology
- Toxicology
- Physiology
- Ergonomy
- Technology
- Sociology



As an occupational health physician one has to aim to make

- work suitable for every individual and
- humane through the practical structure of work.



All occupational

measurements

concerning structure of work

must aim at:



1st - Individual Health Protection and thereby

- Avoidance and reduction of occupational diseases and injuries
- Reduction of excessive demands and balance of too few demands
- Creation of wellbeing at work



2nd – Social Fairness which means

- Support of interpersonal relationships
- Employees' participation in layout of work systems



3rd – Technical and Economical Rationality which means

- Correct coordination of worker – machine – work systems
- Use of workers' capability as well as consideration of upper limits
- Increase of relative capability of worker – machine – systems
- Economical use of workers because of adequate work routine and time needed



4th – Work Organisation

Problems contain


- Work structure
- Analysis of labour
- Recovery time
- Arranging breaks



Because of these topics mentioned above

2 Fundamental Main Foci arise:

- 1st adaption of work to the worker
- 2nd adaption of workers to the work

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- This means in case 1:
surroundings at work have to be adjusted to the employee through
 - ergonomic and
 - organisational measurements,
 - Whereas in case 2:
correct adjustment of the worker to the work e. g. through selection by
 - psychological testing and
 - occupational aptitude tests.



Conclusion

Occupational Health Brings:

- 1st - healthy, motivated and satisfied employees
- 2nd - a minimized number of accidents at work
- 3rd - it is the cheapest form of therapy – “prophylaxis”