DA VENIAM SCRIPTIS QUORUM NON GLORIA NOBIS
CAUSA, SED UTILITAS OFFICIUMQUE FUIT

RAMAZZINI DAYS 2024

October 25th – 27th

LIST of ABSTRACTS

Results

271 residents (40% male, average age 30 years) responded: 24% worked, at least for a period between March 2020 and September 2022, in “COVID departments”. Of the subjects who reported at least 1 SARS-CoV-2 infection episode, 65% worked in “COVID departments” while 55% worked in “non-COVID departments”. The PPE availability during March-May 2020 was judged as inadequate by 5% of respondents from the first group and 4% from the second. In the first group >74% of respondents reported often/always wearing PPEs (surgical masks, filtering face piece (FFP) 2 respirators, eye protections, aprons, gloves). In the second group, only the 35% reported often/always using all the available PPEs, including FFP2 respirators, as there was no indication for their continuous use in “non-COVID departments”. Considering PPEs and SARS-CoV-2 infections, among those who never tested positive 80% reported often/always using gloves; 43%, eye protections; 54%, disposable gowns; 85%, surgical masks; 79% FFP2, and 7% FFP3, respirators. Among those who reported ≥1 infections, the PPEs utilization rates were similar, except for gloves, utilized in 77% of the cases.

Conclusions and next steps

This study highlights differences in the frequency of PPEs utilization between medical residents in COVID vs non-COVID departments, with the former showing higher utilization rates. No relevant difference was observed for the type of PPEs utilized in relation to SARS-CoV-2 infections.

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Graveyard workers: An occupational group with high levels of solar ultraviolet radiation exposure you would never think about.

Conference Sessions - Session

Research Data Abstract Form

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Background

The Project “Measuring solar ultraviolet radiation (UVR) in outdoor workers in Lisbon: From measuring

to assessing risks and developing a digital health platform for workers' guidance" (MEAOW@SolarUV), launched in 2023, is aimed to evaluate solar UVR exposure in outdoor workers (OW) in Portugal using prolonged personal monitoring. OW from Lisbon municipality engaged in different activities are involved.

Methods/Approach
Six different groups of OW were included: gardeners, graveyard workers, pavers, sanitation workers, street construction workers and sailors. GENESIS-UV dosimeters, worn on the upper left arm for about one month, were used to monitor UVR exposure.

Results
The preliminary results obtained in 4 graveyard workers of a Lisbon cementery, monitored from mid April/beginning of May to mid-August 2023 are presented here. The average daily solar UVR exposure, resulting from an average number of 64,5 working days (minimum 57, maximum 74) ranged from 1,8 to 3,7 SED (1 SED = 100 J/m² erythemal weighted irradiance): these values are among the highest recorded in these groups.

Conclusions and next steps
Our data unexpectedly show an high individual solar UVR exposure in graveyard workers, a group not frequently considered in the OW lists, as the one recently provided by the Irish Health Safety Executive. During the four-months observation period, graveyard workers received an individual average daily dose largely sufficient to cause sunburn, a main acute adverse health effect of UVR. Furthermore, sunburns are potentially mutagenic and are recognized risk factors for UV-related skin cancers. Studies like the one presented here are fundamental for a proper recognition of the group of workers at a higher risk, such as graveyard workers, in order to properly implement preventive interventions, including adequate health surveillance programs, and for a proper occupational disease recognition.

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Funding source
Project ID 2022.01888.PTDC, funded by FCT (Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia), Call for R&D Projects in All Scientific Domains - 2022

The reconstruction of occupational exposure in patients with Parkinson's disease and Parkinsonism

Conference Sessions - Session

Research Data Abstract Form

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