



Global Harmony for Occupational Health

Bridge the World

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E-Abstract Book of ICOH Congress 2015

This electronic publication of the abstracts for the ICOH Congress 2015 contains the program overview, abstracts published for the Congress and other associated reference materials.



The title for the **ICOH Congress 2015, Global Harmony for Occupational Health: Bridge the World**, reflects our wish to foster harmonized action for managing complex risks in increasingly diverse work situations.

The structure of the scientific program includes Plenary Sessions, Semi-plenary Sessions, Policy Forums, Special Sessions, Oral Sessions, and Poster Sessions. The scientific program will give delegates an opportunity to learn about the latest research and projects conducted by the world's leading scientists and experts in related fields.

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Prevalence of subjective symptoms in a group of physicians recently involved in Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) procedures

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Introduction:

An increased prevalence of some general symptoms such as headache, tiredness or sleepiness, concentration problems, nausea and metal taste, and other has been recently reported in MRI operators. No data on the evolution of symptoms are available. We have studied the prevalence of subjective symptoms in a group of operators recently engaged in MRI.

Methods:

Using a questionnaire, we have examined subjective symptoms in a group of 17 physicians (mean age 32.9 ± 3.7), attending to a Postgraduate Medical School in Radiology, working with 1.5 Tesla (T) MRI scanners only, or 1.5 T and 3 T MRI systems. All were engaged in MRI from less than one year.

Results:

Eighty-one % of the operators referred at least one of the investigated symptoms; the most frequent were tiredness or sleepiness, headache and concentration problems; the mean number was 1,6 (1,5 SD). Two months later, 85 % of the operators referred a regression of at least one of the symptoms, and the mean number of symptoms became 0,9 (1,2 SD); the largest reduction occurred in the most frequent symptoms, but only for headache the difference is significant (Chi square 5,88; $p < 0,02$).

Discussion:

Our data suggest that after the first weeks of work, a reduction of the symptoms related to MRI can occur in operators. After 2 months of activity, the prevalence in our subjects became more similar to the results of the few comparable studies, further supporting this hypothesis. Even if our data do not allow us to clarify the possible mechanism, these results suggest a kind of adaptation in MRI operators after some weeks of work, and support the need to consider the duration of previous work in MRI rooms among parameters to be considered in further studies.

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