

Occupational Medicine for health professionals; an interactive workshop on Integrating Knowledge of Work and Health in Undergraduate Education

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Faculty:

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Paul Kuijer

All health professionals can benefit from learning about how work can lead to health problems and how health problems affect the working lives of patients. However, in many undergraduate programs, students learn little about occupational health or fail to see the significance as they focus on clinical knowledge and skills.

In this interactive workshop, you will learn how integrating occupational health topics in a curriculum can help students grasp the concept of occupational health without needing to teach dedicated occupational health courses.

The prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders and Work Disability requires a joint effort of all health professionals. Participants of the conference are often also educators who teach health professionals, including but not limited to occupational health professionals.

In this workshop, Karen Nieuwenhuijsen and Paul Kuijer will share their experiences integrating occupational health with undergraduate medical students. They will highlight the strategies chosen in the development of courses and the didactical approaches they use in their teaching. They will then invite participants to map the possibilities of teaching occupational health in their home institutes. Finally, optimal didactical approaches will be sought to teach these subjects.

Participants with teaching responsibilities in the broad area of (occupational) health, both mental and physical health. As the workshop will be hands-on and activating, a limit of 25 participants is set.

About Our Speakers:

1. Karen Nieuwenhuijsen

Karen Nieuwenhuijsen's research focuses on the consequences of mental health problems, including depression and stress, for work. She is an assistant professor at the department of Public and Occupational Health, Coronel Institute, and senior researcher at the Dutch Research Center for Insurance Medicine at the Amsterdam UMC, University of Amsterdam in The Netherlands. She develops and co-ordinates longitudinal courses on academic skills and

professional development for medical students. As principal educator at the medical faculty, she also works on protecting the mental health of medical students. She is secretary of the ICOH-WDPI scientific committee.

2. Paul Kuijer

Dr Paul Kuijer is a Principal Investigator at the Department of Public and Occupational Health of the Amsterdam University Medical Centers (UMC), Amsterdam, the Netherlands. He works as a human movement specialist on work-related musculoskeletal disorders at the Netherlands Center for Occupational Diseases and at the People and Work Outpatient Clinic, all part of the Amsterdam UMC. Paul's research goal is enhancing work participation among patients with musculoskeletal disorders by improving integrated patient-centered care, including prevention. Besides doing research and patient care, Paul is coordinator of the three months elective course 'Medicine and elite sports: high demand professions! Ground-breaking multidisciplinary care to enhance participation' for second year medical students.