

Latin Questionnaire: a threshold strategy for anamnestic screening of occupational musculoskeletal disorders through specific reference groups

Keynote Sessions

Faculty:

Daniela Colombini

Similar protocols describing MSDs are available. Problems arise when the results are processed collectively. Indeed, given the widespread presence of MSDs, in exposed and not exposed populations, statistical comparisons of MSDs in the two categories often do not provide significant results. The purpose of this paper is to present a new questionnaire model regarding the first level of health surveillance, validated with the contribution of 37 physicians from 14 Latin Countries. The Latin Questionnaire represents a simple first tool for the prevention and management of MSDs of occupational origin, allowing, already in the anamnestic phase, an epidemiological comparison of exposed workers with those of pre-supplied reference groups. The Latin Questionnaire is based on symptoms. The model, which considers the previous 12 months, is designed to identify positive anamnestic cases (positive to the threshold), cases with minor disorders and negative cases for the spine, upper and lower limbs. The main difference between this questionnaire and other anamnestic models is the introduction of a severity threshold. An updated reference population (4,000 not exposed workers) is proposed to allow comparisons with the exposed population. The Latin Questionnaire, implemented in digital form (free download), allows selecting significant anamnestic cases and minor disorders. This strategy is indispensable to conducting epidemiological studies correctly. Applicative examples confirm the differences between the % of the positive thresholds in exposed compared to reference groups, with surpluses proportional to the levels of exposure to biomechanical overload.

About Our Speaker:

Daniela Colombini

MD in Occupational Medicine and Statistics, European Ergonomist. President of Scientific Association Ergonomics of Posture and Movements International Ergonomics School (EPM IES), she has 40 years of experience in risk assessment methods for biomechanical overload prevention. Coauthor of OCRA method, VLI NIOSH ML, TACOs posture. Occupational Medicine Professor at the University of Milan, Florence and Bogotá for many years. Since 20 years active member of CEN and ISO in TC 159 SC3: co-chair of sub-groups in TC MSDs in International Ergonomics Association. Chair of **ISO TR 23476 (agriculture)** and the new **ISO TR (construction)**. Author of more than 20 books and 200 scientific papers.