

P1. Occupational Dermatitis

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Dermatoses that occur as a result of primary irritation or sensitization are generally referred to as "occupational dermatosis", depending on work done by a person, vehicle they are using and their workplace or work environment.

Skin's occupational diseases are most frequently reported occupational diseases after trauma. It constitutes ~ 50% of all occupational diseases. It is responsible for ~ 25% of work loss. It is very important because it is both frequent and vulnerable. In addition, occupational dermatoses are not only functional but also physical and psychosocial on both individuals and society. For this reason, occupational dermatoses have been recognized as one of major public health problems in recent years.

It is seen that factors that cause deep occupational diseases are parallel to development of industry. In beginning, dermatoses due to mechanical applications became preliminary while dermatoses caused by industrial materials became important. Occupation areas with the highest risk are manufacturing industry, food production, metal and plastic industry, motor industry and forestry.

Hundreds of chemicals entering working life every year lead to inherent primary irritation and allergic sensitization. Occupational dermatoses caused by chemicals can come up with a wide variety of tables ranging from dermatitis to malignancies.

Most common occupational dermatoses are;

- Contact Dermatitis 79%
- Contact Urticaria 3.5%
- Infectious conditions 2.5%
- Neoplasia 12.5%

The ability to accurately diagnose occupational dermatoses is important in order to guide patients in their profession. It is most important step in prevention of occupational dermatoses, examination of employees at certain intervals, identification of high-risk jobs and treatment of atopic individuals towards this information. Early diagnosis and treatment is first step in reducing both employer's and employee's grievances caused by these diseases, which can be prevented and treated.

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