

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES IN HEALTHCARE SECTOR IN CROATIA

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INTRODUCTION

Healthcare workers - risks and hazards during work:

- infectious diseases,
- ionizing radiation,
- cytotoxic substances,
- chemicals,
- overuse syndromes,
- repetitive movements and static and dynamic strains

Injuries at work and work related diseases are treated by general practitioner while the scope and frequency of preventive examinations are determined by legislation.

Assessment of work capacity is exclusively carried out by occupational medicine specialists.

Diseases compensated by national workers' compensation authorities are entitled as occupational diseases.

METHODS AND PURPOSE

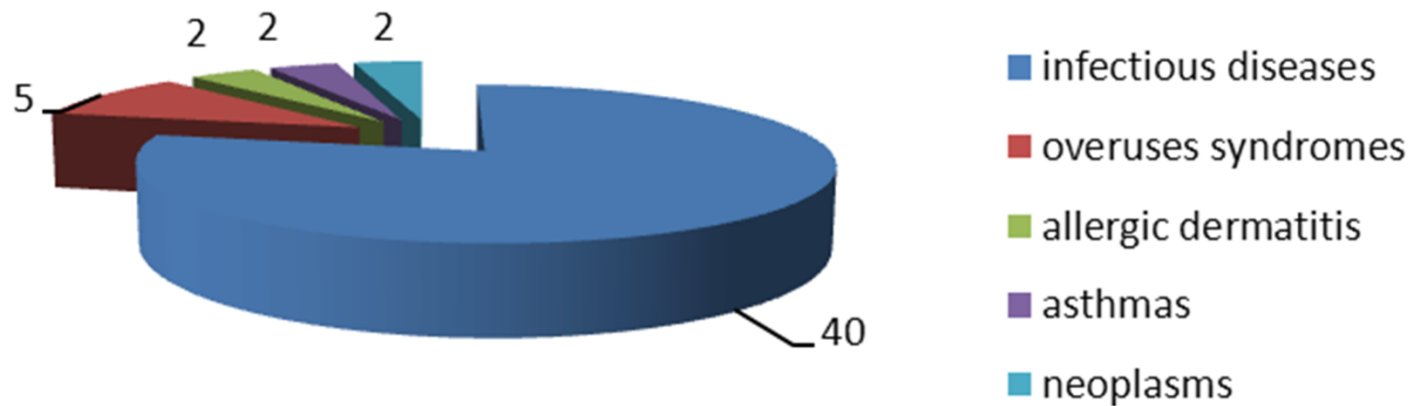
The purpose of this study was to evaluate the types of occupational diseases in healthcare workers in Croatia in the last four years (2010-2013) and to focus prevention activities on reducing the occurrence of occupational diseases in Croatia

Data was collected from Registry of Occupational Diseases that was established within Croatian Institute for Health Protection and Safety at Work (CHPSW) at the request of Ministry of Health.

CHPSW is monitoring occupational diseases at the national level, analyzing causes of occupational diseases and workers' characteristics (age, gender, years of employment, qualifications), as well as economic sector.

RESULTS

Occupational Disease in Healthcare Sector (2010-2013)



RESULTS

Health and social care activity is ranked fourth according to the number of occupational diseases in Croatia, with an average rate of 15.3/100,000.

In the four-year period from 2010 to 2013 total number of occupational diseases were 1237, 51 out of it were in health care sector (4%)