Assessment and management of risk factors and adverse effects in the modern office environment

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Volatile organic compounds in office buildings: identification of major sources and intervention study to reduce indoor concentrations
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Health effects of Indoor Air Quality in European modern office buildings
P. Carrer

Physicochemical risk factors for building-related symptoms: thermal conditions and combined exposures to indoor air pollutants
K. Azuma

Why eye symptoms in aircraft and offices?
P. Wolkoff

Indoor air quality audit management in modern office buildings
J. Bartzis

Discussion and Conclusions
BACKGROUND

• Workers employed in non-industrial sectors (offices, trade, banking, hospitals, schools, etc.), account for the main part of the labour force in many countries.

• Modern offices are created with the use of new components, materials, equipments and other consumer products, as well as new energy strategies (lightning, heating, cooling and ventilation).

• Growing concern about the pollutants that may be emitted from office equipment (ozone, primary VOCs and particles) and about reactive indoor air chemistry.

• Variety of chemical, physical, biological, ergonomic and psychosocial hazards with a potentially high and diversified impact of work-related health problems.
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF INDOOR AIR QUALITY PROBLEMS IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

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The role of the occupational physician in the assessment and management of indoor air quality problems

1. Collaboration in risk assessment – risk management

2. Questionnaire

3. Health surveillance
   • Medical examination for specific indoor problem
   • Periodical medical surveillance

4. Health promotion
ICOH SC IAQ BUSINESS MEETING
Seoul 2015

ICOH SC IAQ - BUSINESS MEETING REPORT AT ICOH2015

ICOH SC IAQ: INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

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The occupational health services are increasingly requested in non-industrial building sector (offices, banks, schools, etc.). Workers employed in such environments account for the major part of the labour force in many countries. Effects on health, well-being, and productivity have been increasingly reported during the last decades. The indoor air quality (IAQ) in non-industrial buildings is an issue of growing concern and, synergies with psychosocial stress may potentially be important. IAQ in office buildings is an issue of increasing interest also because it deals with workers providing services of the highest relevance for the companies/communities. The office type could play a role in the prevalence of symptoms and sickness absence. The concern regarding productivity is not only related to absenteeism and associated diseases due to the work environment (IAQ), but may also result from less comfortable working conditions.