Elective: Public Health & Preventive Medicine – Occupational Health

OVERVIEW

This elective involves three components:

- Clinical Occupational Health
- The Worker's Compensation Board and
- Time with the Chief Occupational Medical Officer, Workplace Safety & Health.

This elective is available during all elective periods with prior arrangement. This elective is minimum of 2 weeks duration.

INTRODUCTION

Contact Person:

Dr. Allen Kraut
Medical Director, Occupational Health
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority Integrated Sites
Associate Professor
Departments of Internal Medicine and Community Health Sciences
College of Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences
University of Manitoba
Phone 204-789-3294

Email: allen.kraut@umanitoba.ca

LEARNING OBJECTIVES (CanMEDS)

Medical Expert

- Clinically evaluate workers who are concerned their health has been adversely affected by their work.
- Describe five physical, chemical, biological, ergonomic or psychosocial hazards in the working environment and identify ways to limit the effects of such exposures.
- Understand the basics of occupational hygiene, specifically the principles and techniques underlying the evaluation and control of workplace hazards.
- Describe two surveillance and epidemiology techniques in occupational health.

Collaborator

Describe the organization, structure and function of occupational health services and the roles
played by the various agencies (e.g. Workplace Safety and Health Division of Manitoba Labour,
Manitoba federation of Labour Occupational Health Clinic, Workers Compensation Board).

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Health Advocate

- Understand the legislation relevant to occupational health in Manitoba (e.g. Workplace Safety and Health Act, WCB and appropriate reporting mechanisms).
- Describe the social, economic, political, legal and ethical issues in occupational health, and the various perspectives of workers, unions, employers and government on these issues.

INFORMATION

Evaluations

Both the student and the preceptor will complete an electronic FITER at the conclusion of the elective.

Call Responsibilities

Call is not a mandatory part of this elective.

ROTATION ACTIVITIES

Expectations

Students will be contacted via email by the preceptor prior to the start date of their elective. This communication will provide the schedule for the elective, and also confirm the start time and location for the first day of the elective.

By the end of this elective period the student shall:

- Participate in two to three outpatient occupational medicine clinics per week.
- Conduct visits to various work sites coordinated by the Chief Medical Officer of the Province.
- Be oriented to the role and responsibilities of the Worker's Compensation Board, Healthcare department, claims area, and injury statistics.