

***Audit* della sorveglianza sanitaria negli esposti a polvere di legno**

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KEY WORDS

Wood dust; audit; occupational carcinogen; nasal polyposis; nose cancer

SUMMARY

«Audit of medical surveillance in wood dust exposure». **Background:** *Medical surveillance of wood-dust exposed workers has been compulsory in Italy since 1956. The Law 66 of 25/2/2000, as a consequence of the EU Directive regarding occupational carcinogenic and mutagenic agents, has recently enforced preventive measures for wood dust exposure.* **Objectives:** *The Local Health Unit RM-F, Civitavecchia, has developed a Workplace Vigilance Plan, specifically aimed at the enhancement of preventive measures against carcinogens. The Plan includes the "audit" of the Occupational Health physicians responsible for workers' surveillance.* **Methods:** *Physicians are invited to revise the quality of their work and to consider the inclusion of specific occupational health measures in the health plan, such as rhinoscopic examination.* **Results:** *In many cases, this action leads to the revision of the Security Document, the improvement of programs and protocols, and the enhancement of training activities. In a few cases, medical surveillance allowed diagnosis of wood dust-related occupational diseases, such as nasal polyposis and adenocarcinoma of paranasal sinuses.* **Conclusions:** *Audit in occupational medicine is a feasible and efficient tool to improve quality of health care.*

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