



Work exposure assessment in the diagnosis of occupational contact dermatitis

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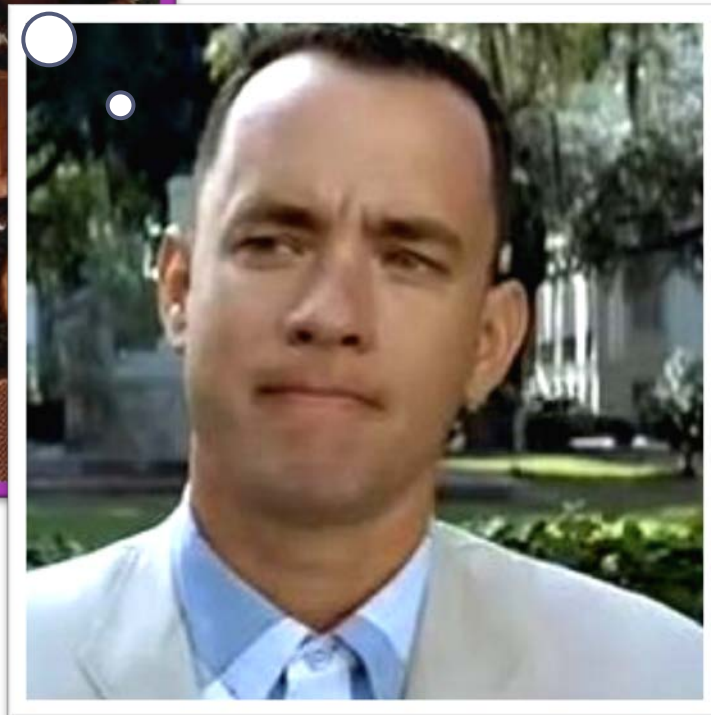


CROATIAN INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH PROTECTION
AND SAFETY AT WORK



National Institute of
Occupational Health

Hmmm... exposure
assessment vs.
box of candy....



What is expected and desired of exposure assessment

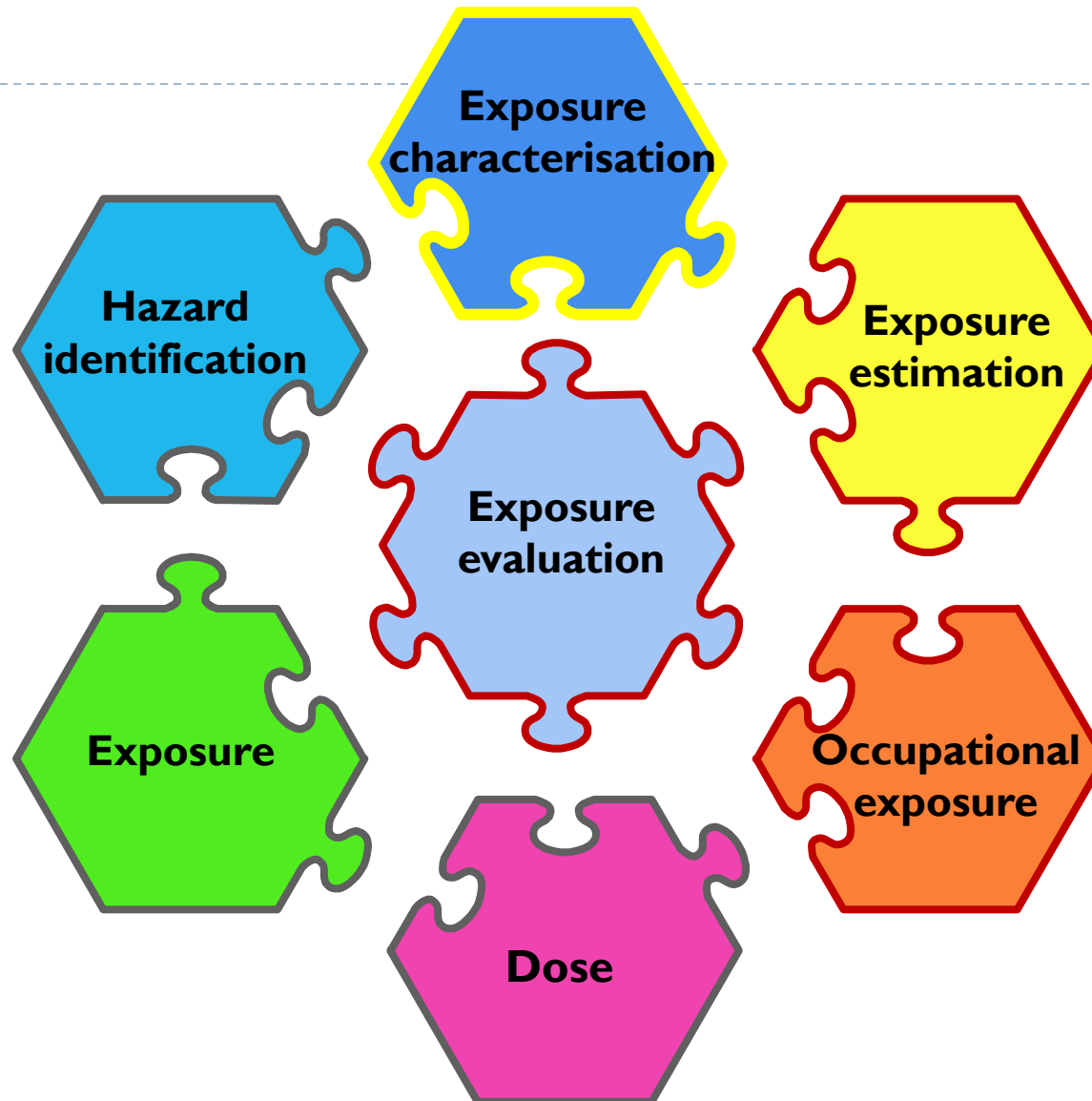
Expected

- ▶ Derive exposure estimates for each exposure scenario
- ▶ All routes – and combinations
- ▶ Duration and frequency according to operational conditions

Desired

- ▶ Transparent
- ▶ Flexible
- ▶ Interpretable and consistent
- ▶ Relevant, realistic (but in context of final exposure scenario)
- ▶ Compatible with registration needs and other processes – restriction, authorisation – well described for screening
- ▶ Validation of exposure estimates and modifying factors
- ▶ Uses appropriate terminology
- ▶ Support production of ES for many uses in many dossiers

Definitions within occupational exposure assessment



Chasing exposure assessment

234 total abstracts identified =
182 abstracts plus 52 by hand search

41 papers suitable for further appraisal

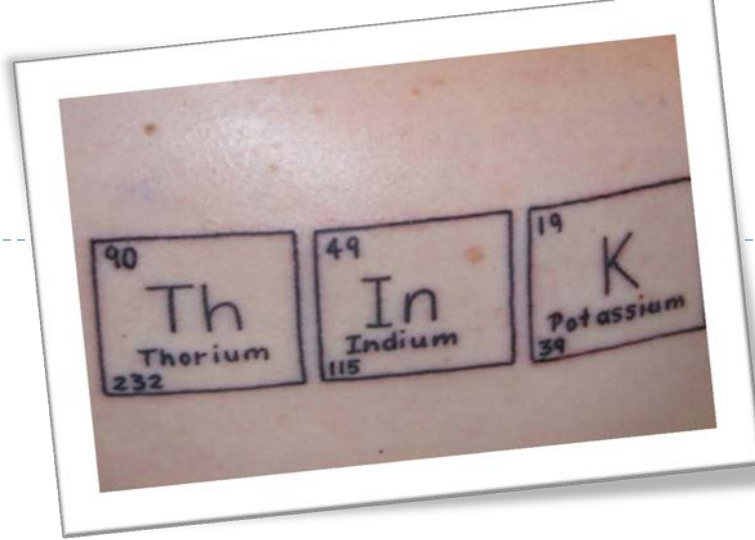
7 papers formed the baseline

Three key Q of the quest for an A

- ▶ Which are suitable sources of information for exposure assessment when diagnosing OCD?
 - ▶ Product labels, MSDS, product DB, other available DB, specialty handbooks
 - ▶ Inquiring manufacturer or supplier, conducting a workplace visit, conducting a chemical analysis of the product
- ▶ What would be a recommendable chart flow for exposure assessment when diagnosing OCD?
- ▶ How to tackle challenges regarding lack of information in material safety data sheets?
 - ▶ Conduct a workplace visit
 - ▶ Ask employer for reports on formerly conducted risk assessment

Flyvholm MA. **Prevention through exposure assessment.** Curr Probl Dermatol. 1996; 25: 97-105.

▶ Friis UF, Menné T, Flyvholm MA, Bonde JP, Johansen JD. **Occupational allergic contact dermatitis diagnosed by a systematic stepwise exposure assessment of allergens in the work environment.** Contact Dermatitis. 2013;69(3):153-163.



- ▶ data are collected and maintained in a variety of ways only occasionally compatible with each other
- ▶ emerging issue: a workplace visit
- ▶ **!** not a single document to be referred to as a standard practice either for EA or WV
 - ▶ address the issue of EA more profoundly, search the gray literature too before designing recommendations,
 - ▶ see to which extent is EA a part of risk assessment and to which extent do they collide
 - ▶ provide a set of recommendations for WV





“Go ahead, make my day.”-...

