



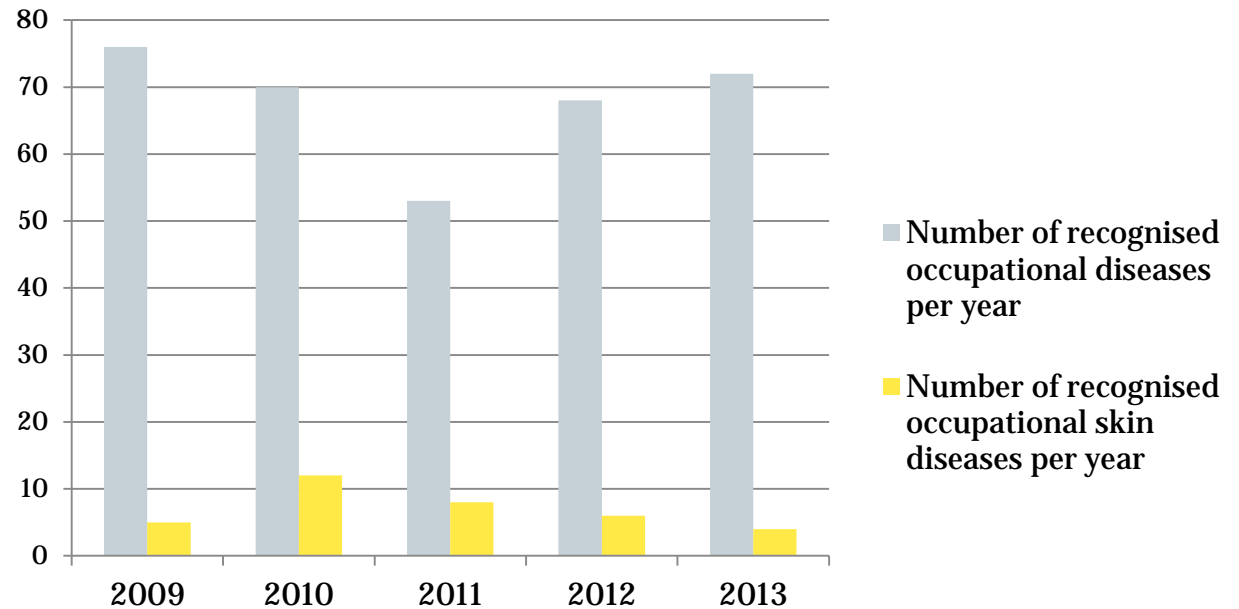
Efficacy of periodic health examinations in prevention of occupational contact dermatitis in Croatia

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Occupational diseases in Croatia, 2009-2013.



to evaluate the efficacy of periodic health examination performed by OHP in recognizing and preventing occupational contact dermatitis

The purpose of the study

Limitations of the study



Questionnaire

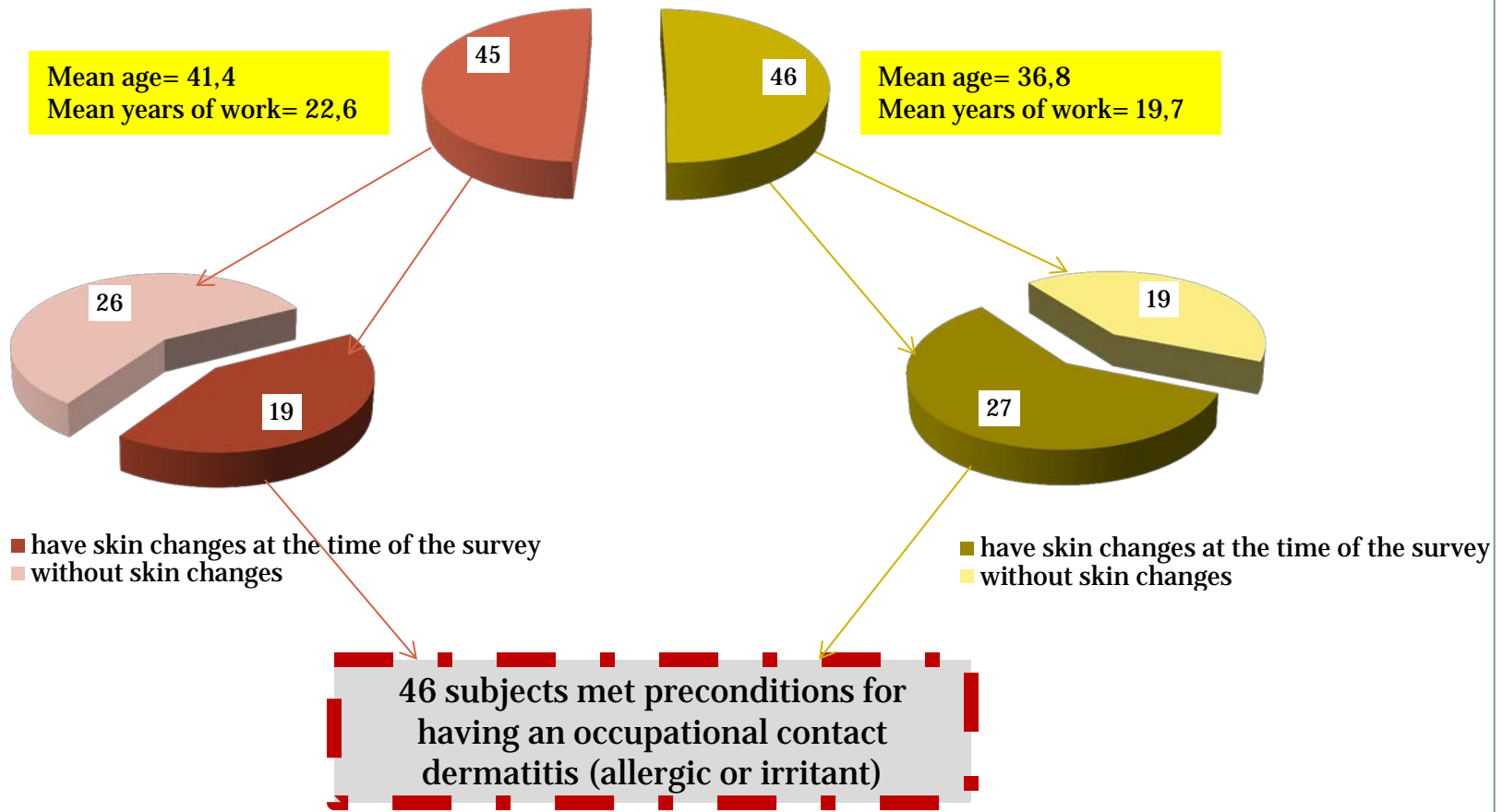
- use of modified EvaHair questionnaire, modification not validated before application
- the positive impact of skin care products cannot be evaluated properly, because majority of participants answered the question C 6.2. with “during work” after which they added in written: “mostly”

Examination of the skin

- assessing skin changes on the hands of participants without an assessment (scoring) tool
- evaluation left to individual opinion/impression of the observer
- patch-test was not performed due to organisational and financial limitations

Main results

- number of subjects employed in clinics
- number of subjects employed in outpatient centers





What's next?

Apply standardised tool for pre- and post-employment education on OSD prevention?

Educate / raise awareness of OHP, nurses, safety experts, union and employers' representatives on prevention of OSD?

Define a standard for pre-enrollment, pre-employment, and after-employment periodic health examinations?

Define a standard for workplace visit in terms of prevention of OSD?

Instead of conclusion, **imagine:**

- in Croatia, majority of HCW visit OHP every year to have an obligatory periodic health examination! Still, only few OHP check the condition of the skin, or explore more deeply work-relatedness of existing hand eczema
- Non existent obligatory educational programmes on prevention of OCD during education and the scant evidence of education after employment lives open space for action
- **How many cases of OCD could be prevented if:**
 - health examinations before enrolling into educational process in HC would be standardised, thus more efficient in terms of prevention
 - education on prevention of OSD would become an obligatory part of regular undergraduate or graduate educational programmes for all occupations in HC
 - periodic health examination of HCW would be more efficient in detecting possible cases of OSD thus providing opportunity for raising awareness or changing workers' behaviour in terms of prevention
 - workplace visits, conducted by OHP, would become a regular activity with defined, standardised approach in terms of prevention of OSD



Greetings from Zagreb!