

Short Term Scientific Mission (STSM) Report

STSM details

Title	COST Action TD1206 STANDERM
Participant	Suzana Ljubojević Hadžavdić, Zagreb University Hospital, Croatia
Host	Cecilia Svedman, Skåne University Hospital, Malmö, Sweden
Period	19 – 23 April 2016

Background

Occupational contact dermatitis accounts for 90% of all cases of work-related cutaneous disorders. Accurate diagnosis relies on meticulous history taking, thorough physical examination, careful reading of Material Safety Data Sheets to distinguish between irritants and allergens, and comprehensive patch testing to confirm or rule out allergic sensitization.

Aim (purpose) of the STSM

The aims of this STSM were to:

1. increase my knowledge in occupationally and environmentally related skin diseases, risk factors and prevention
2. study new techniques for the diagnoses of occupational skin diseases
3. discuss about different aspects of occupational skin diseases
4. attend a symposium on allergic contact dermatitis

Work carried out during the STSM

Together with my Swedish colleague Cecilia Svedman and her team, I discussed the occurrence, prognosis and consequences of skin allergies and hand eczema, skin sensitizing metals, cosmetic ingredients and thermosetting plastic. We took a close look at risk factors (wet work and lifestyle factors), skin exposure to hazardous substances, skin absorption and protective gloves, measures to reduce harmful skin exposure and prevent disease. We also discussed different cases at their department. Furthermore, I participated at the symposium on allergic contact dermatitis.

Main results obtained

The STSM increased my knowledge of occupationally and environmentally related skin diseases, risk factors and prevention. During my stay, I studied new techniques to diagnose occupational skin diseases. This included the preparation of different allergens, e.g. glove extracts, textile dyes.

Future collaboration with the host institution

We agreed to undertake a multicentre study concerning occupational contact dermatoses.

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