

Washington who are enrolled through 4,000 employer groups, unions and trusts. The goal of the HMO is to preserve and improve the health of its members and minimize functional impairment regardless of the source of injury or illness. To this end Kaiser Permanente reorganized the delivery of Occupational Health Services into seven specialty clinics region-wide, including the sub-specialties of Occupational Health, Orthopedics, Physiatry, Neurology, Industrial Hygiene and Safety. Continuity of care is preserved through a unique medical record for each member. Planning for prevention is facilitated by a computerized database of employer characteristics and patient encounters. This paper will describe current service delivery as well as future plans such as increasing the management of care and integrating workers' compensation care with general health care.

### **Interagency Jurisdictional Issues**

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The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is the primary Federal agency with jurisdiction over the occupational safety and health of workers in the private sector. However, other Federal agencies exercise statutory authority over workplace safety and health. For example, the Department of Energy, Transportation and Defense, and the Environmental Protection Agency are among those agencies which assert jurisdiction over worker safety and health. In addition to these agencies, states have occupational safety and health statutes which vary from state-to-state. OSHA must work with these Federal and state agencies to assure comprehensive worker protection and avoid duplication of effort.

### **The NIOSH Farm Family Health and Hazard Surveillance Program**

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The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is the Federal Agency mainly responsible for conducting research on the occupational safety and health of the U.S. work force. Farmers are an important part of this work force. The infrastructure of universities, County Extension Services, and State Health Departments is the focal point for NIOSH funding of a surveillance program that describes the health status of farm families and the hazards of farming. The results of these surveys will be a first step in the prevention of work related injury and disease. Six cooperative agreements awarded in September 1990 averaged \$194,000 for the first year of a five year program. Survey designs differ with respect to commodity (grain, dairy, livestock, etc.), geography (statewide or selected counties), demography (all age/sex or selected groups), targeted diseases and injuries and selected physical, chemical or biological hazards. Each state's survey strategies reflects their specific priorities, perceptions of opportunity for research, and goals for disease and injury prevention.



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## Conference Abstracts

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