

50310

Do You Need a M.A.P.? (Computerized Pre-applicant Medical Assessment Profile Screens)

*Sandra Crawford, RN, COHN-S
Marna J. Hollingsworth, MS, RN, BSN
Margaret M. Mais, BS, RN, COHN-S*

This display presents and explains the Medical Assessment Process (MAP)-the new computer initiated, state-of-the-art tool to enhance the hiring process. Utilizing optical scanning and computer technology, MAP assists the occupational health nurse in providing a time efficient and cost-effective alternative to the traditional pre-employment physical process. This method allows the occupational health nurse to demonstrate the professional knowledge and skills necessary to be a respected, valued, and effective member of the hiring team within a company. Effective nurse interventions are discussed and presented.

50311

Effective Absence Management

*Veronica Y. Denton, BSN, RN, COHN-S/CM
N. Joann Leinart, MSN, RN, COHN-S*

With the dawning of the new millennium, many American companies are learning to utilize their decreased resources more effectively. Companies realize that their resources are being utilized for both occupational and non-occupational short-term disability costs. Most companies utilize case management for their occupational illnesses and injuries and have seen a substantial savings as employees receive the best care with less expense in a more timely manner. Savings were also realized from the early return to work of employees which increases productivity for the company. A large company in eastern Tennessee implemented a non-occupational case management program after recognizing their non-occupational short-term disability costs were 10 times the cost of occupational short-term disability. The purpose of this poster presentation is to relay the proposal, plans, implementation, and three-year evaluation of this successful program. The goals of the case management team are to ensure that employees receive appropriate medical services; educate employees, physicians, and supervisors regarding modified or alternate duty opportunities that would facilitate early return to work; and reduce the cost of short-term disability costs by facilitating early return to work.

50312

Environmental Concerns in a College of Dentistry: Dental Unit Waterline Contamination

Denise C. Murphy, DrPH, RN, COHN

Dentistry is an evolving health care profession with concurrent development in the area of dental materials and equipment. Environmental concerns in dentistry exist but are often overlooked or ignored. The daily use of both high

speed sharp vibrating instruments and chemical compounds places the dental care worker (DCW) in a susceptible position for occupational/environmental exposure. Public interest has recently been drawn to contaminated dental care and its potentially harmful effects on the patient and the worker. Therefore, while there are multiple harmful exposures in the dental care environment, this poster presentation focuses on contaminated waterlines. It identifies the source of the hazard, the population at risk, preventive strategies for eliminating and /or reducing the exposure, and research recommendations.

50313

Ergonomic Program Development and Implementation for a Manufacturing Facility

Jane C. Inaura, RN, COHN-S

This poster presentation is designed to assist the occupational health nurse in developing and implementing an ergonomics program in their facility. Components of the program presented include employee training for a production facility; an ergonomic evaluation sample and worksheet; and examples of successful changes using engineering control, administrative control, and work practice control methods. Poster board includes an organizational chart of the ergonomics program, pictures of actual ergonomic changes adapted for specific tools, and musculoskeletal disease statistic reduction graph to date. Since this program has been so successful in reducing injuries at our site, this poster session would appeal to any occupational health nurse challenged with developing and implementing an ergonomics program by providing proven methods and measurement tools. Copies of the materials are available upon request.

50314

Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program

Doloris N. Higgins, MS, RN, COHN-S

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics identified 403 work-related deaths of young workers under age 18 from 1992 through 1997. Highway crashes, tractor rollovers, homicides, falls from elevation, being struck by objects, and electrocutions were identified as leading causes of death. Research was conducted using the Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) model. FACE is a research program supported by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for the identification, investigation, and prevention of targeted fatal occupational injuries. Through selected on-site fatality investigations, agent, host and environmental data from the pre-event, event, and post-event phases of the fatal incident are collected. Between 1986 and June 2000, the NIOSH FACE program investigated and completed investigative reports on 38 fatalities that involved workers under 18 years of age. Recommended injury prevention strategies included, but were not limited to, compliance with child labor laws, equipment modifica-

tions, appropriate use of personal protective equipment, employee training, and development and enforcement of comprehensive safety programs. The FACE model allows researchers to gain knowledge regarding the circumstances surrounding the death of young workers and to formulate and disseminate prevention strategies to those who can intervene in the workplace or influence youth employment decisions.

50315

First Aid Kits

Mary V. Lowell, MS, RN, COHN-S
Carol Berra, RN, BSN

Many organizations have employees at multiple sites without occupational health services. There is a need for first aid supplies to be readily available for use in these areas. The first step was to review ANSI S308.1-1998 for the minimum requirements for workplace first aid kits. An assessment of the outlying sites and company vehicles was completed. Results showed little uniformity in kits and kits with outdated and/or inappropriate supplies. The purpose of the first aid kits is to provide employees with a basic range of products to deal with their own minor injuries in the workplace. There are no "first aiders" in these work areas. A policy for first aid kits was developed and approved. A list of latex free supplies was determined. No medications are included. After a cost comparison was completed, supplies available in this health care setting were used. Since more than 100 kits had to be assembled, cost was a factor. Employees in the modified duty program assembled the kits. The first aid kits will be inspected annually at each location to assure completeness and up to date supplies. Employee health and safety will do restocking and periodic review of contents.

50316

Hepatitis C Screening at a Comprehensive Cancer Center

Michelle Anne Newton, RN, BSN
Melissa Gutierrez-Gonzalez, BS
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Hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection has become the most common chronic bloodborne infection in the United States. 1.8 percent of adults in the United States test positive for HCV antibody. Infected persons serve as a source of transmission to others and are at risk for developing chronic hepatitis, cirrhosis, and liver cancer. Health care workers can acquire HCV via occupational exposure. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) predicts that deaths from Hepatitis C will triple in the next ten years. The social, emotional, and financial costs associated with this emerging epidemic are predicted to be enormous. To encourage identification and early treatment of HCV, the employee health department at

a multi-site cancer center has developed a voluntary HCV testing program. New employees who have had prior occupational exposure to blood and/or body fluids will be offered HCV antibody testing after they begin work. Antibody positive employees are offered counseling and referred for medical evaluation and treatment. The data from this voluntary testing program is presented. Screening for HCV facilitates early detection and intervention that may limit the devastating effects of this disease.

50317

Hospital Based TB Screening Program: 90% Compliance with 9,000 Employees

Jean Franzini, MS, RNC

This poster presentation details the development of an innovative annual tuberculosis (TB) screening program for employees and physicians at a 750 bed acute care teaching hospital with 9,000 employees. A new customer friendly approach resulted in a compliance rate of 90 percent. Strategies for success are identified for participants to implement at their institutions. Three models of service presented include quarterly screening in a hospital lobby, a TB resource nurse program, and fast track occupational health service visits.

50318

How to Recognize a Quality Transport Service

Eileen Frazer, RN

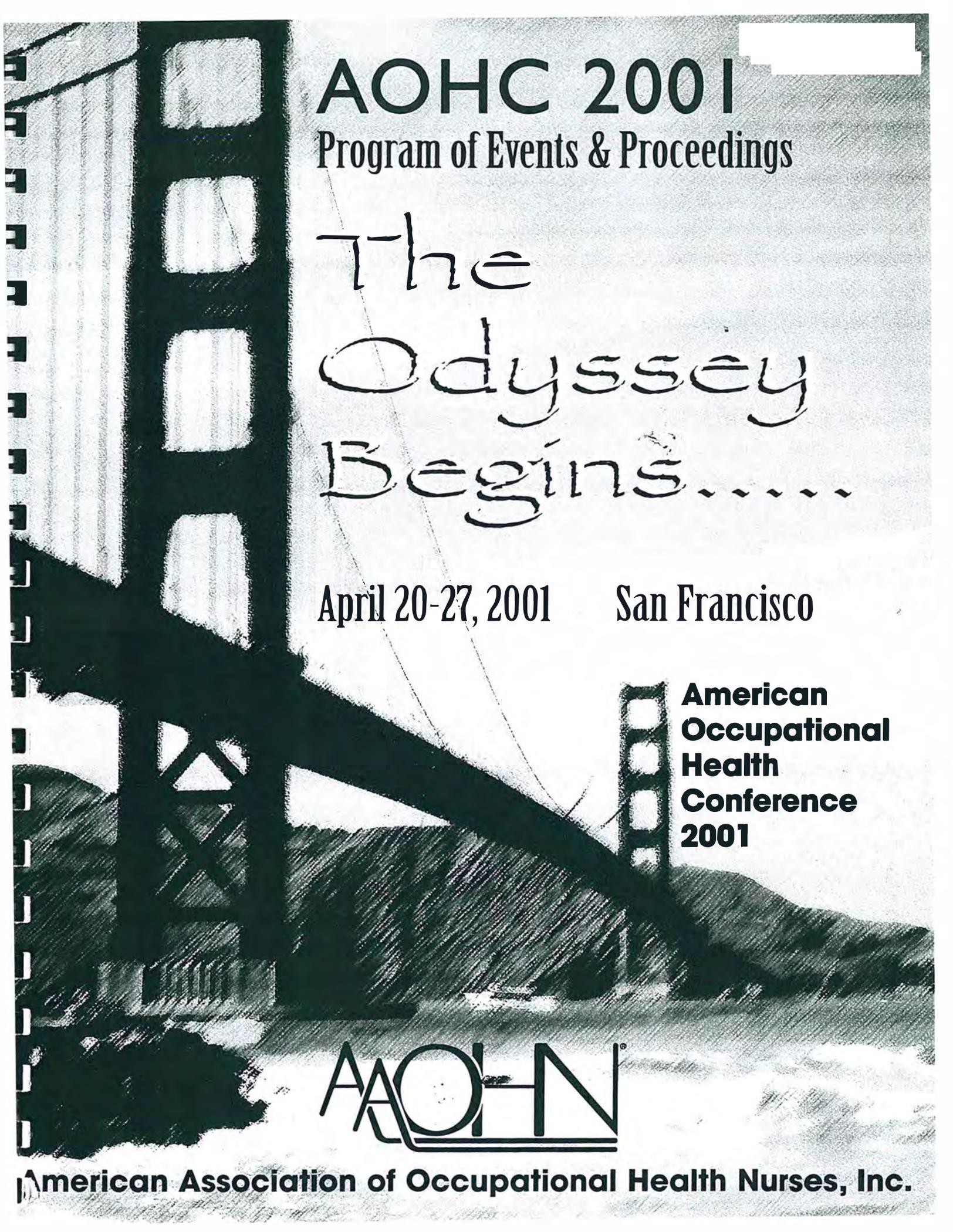
Occupational health nurses may be involved in arranging for emergency medical air or ground transport for employees. These nurses should be knowledgeable about which transport services are safe and able to provide quality care during transport. This presentation provides participants with a checklist to recognize a quality service and to avoid contracting with the wrong service. This presentation familiarizes participants with the Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems (CAMTS), a non-profit corporation dedicated to improving the safety and quality of air medical and ground transport services. What is included in the accreditation standards; who are the member organizations of CAMTS; how does a transport service achieve accreditation; how does one find out which services are accredited are some of questions that are highlighted and answered.

50319

Hyperbaric Medicine: Uses and Hazards

Joyce Simonowitz, MSN, RN

Patients and workers may be exposed to conditions of increased barometric pressure combined with saturated oxygen or oxygen deficient atmospheres. Recreational divers or employees in work environments such as commercial divers, caisson workers, or nursing staff who assist in hyperbaric treatments may be exposed to improperly



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