

DEVELOPING OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORK IN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE

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WHERE ARE THE LINKS BETWEEN PRIMARY HEALTH CARE & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH?

- Fitness for work associated with health issues or injury is mostly assessed by General Practice
- Health problems and their management may impact on an employee's ability to perform work tasks
- Medical Assessments for various professional bodies

WHAT DO I DO?

- Work place clinics
- Assessment of employees with work related health issues
- Health issues which have an impact on the work place
- Health screening
- Ensure consistency of health advice for the employer

IS THERE A NEED FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA?



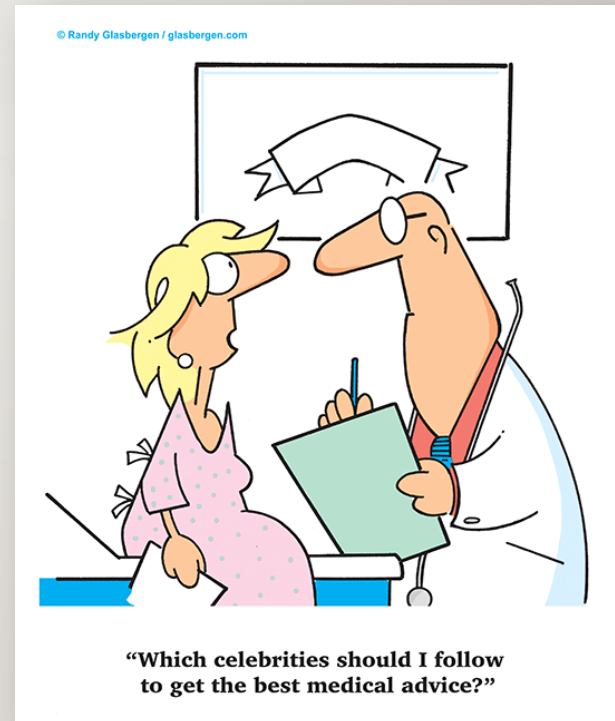
WHERE ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH WORK?

- Is there an unmet need in your locality?
- What are the local industries?
- Which local industries are 'high risk'?
- How do we identify the opportunities for health education:
 - Speaking at employer meetings
 - Follow up with employers re employees presenting in General Practice
- Linking with local specialists
- The Team approach
 - work place
 - The health team
 - Collegial support



EDUCATION FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH IN GENERAL PRACTICE

- Otago
- Post graduate Certificate in Occupational Medicine
- Diploma in Industrial health Otago NZ
- Post graduate Diploma in Occupational Medicine Otago
- What is available for GP's for peer review groups , and CME activities?
- Accessibility of education on an ongoing basis



PEER REVIEW

- Wellington: 4-6 weekly peer review meetings
- Auckland: Monthly CME meetings and also a peer group case discussions/ evidence based journal reviews
- Christchurch: Monthly faculty meetings
- Dunedin: No formal peer review or CME activity

TEACHING

- If you belong to a teaching practice then there are good teaching opportunities for registrars, trainee interns and also Rural immersion students.
- Opportunities for more formal education for students in General Practice.

THE FUTURE

- Educational opportunities for existing professionals providing occupational health services
- Feasibility for a quarterly training afternoon in the different cities in a similar format to the WOMIG meetings?
- Is there an opportunity to provide more formal education to students within the primary health setting
- Is there an opportunity for 'e-learning' – how can we leverage technology?



"I have already diagnosed myself on the internet"