

# **Evidence Based Occupational Health in Serbia**

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# Outline

- OH in Serbia
- EBM in Serbian OH

# Occupational health in Serbia

- Transition from curative and preventive work to strictly preventive;
- Aged discipline;
- Limited IT resources and infrastructure;
- Leadership?
- New legislation;
- Experienced staff;
- Willingness for improvement.



# Occupational health in Serbia

- Restriction of OH specialization;
- Limited number of young specialists;
- OH Teaching staff needs update;
- OH in focus of biannual agreement Serbia-WHO.
- New OH policy in preparation;
- Significant investments in National Institute of Occupational Health;
- Increased availability of online publications.

# OH and EBM in Serbia

- The freedom of OH specialist decision was significantly lower than in other clinical disciplines.
- The most of daily work in OH has been and it is regulated by various acts and standards.
- Evidence based regulation?



# OH and EBM in Serbia

- In Serbia a number of standards, regulations, guidelines and acts has been developed to standardize procedures and to maintain good practice.
- Those standards and regulations has been mainly evidence based due to fact that they were based on results of large epidemiological studies conducted in sixties and seventies.

# OH and EBM in Serbia

- Development of EBM concept in OH of Serbia has been influenced with same factors like in the other clinical disciplines.
- So, nowadays the most of OH specialists in Serbia have opportunity to base their work on modern EBM and global experiences, but it is not often a practice.



# OH and EBM in Serbia

- Unfortunately, even if during OH specialisation medical doctors are forced to use international literature, after their return to routine work only limited number of them continues that practice.
- But, in coming years one might expect that more and more Serbian OH specialist will integrate significantly more EBM in their routine work.