

Women, Work & Cancer conference

Tony Musu, European Trade Union Institute

Introduction

Brussels, 4 December 2018

10 facts you should know about occupational cancers

1. Cancer is the first cause of death at work in the EU
2. Occupational cancers are invisible
3. Women's occupational cancer are even more invisible
4. Work-related cancers cause social inequalities in health
5. The societal cost of work-related cancers is tremendous
6. For many carcinogens we knew and we acted too late
7. Over 80% of exposure at work are caused by 50 carcinogenic agents
8. We have EU and national legislations to tackle work-related cancers...but they need to be continuously improved
9. There is no agreed methodology to derive OELs for carcinogens at EU level
10. Occupational cancers are preventable

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Session 1: Action for a better prevention

- The struggle of the Amisol workers against asbestos
Josette Roudaire, ex-worker Amisol, France
- Cytotoxic substances: campaigning and improving the prevention
Ian Lindsley, European Biosafety Network, EU
- EU-OSHA findings and activities
Elke Schneider, EU-OSHA
- Mortality in the cleaning sector – the role of cancer
Laura Van den Borre, VUB, Belgium
- Testimonial
Georgina Augusto, former nurse, Spain
- Discussion

Session 2: Keeping the work, organising the return to work and fighting against discrimination for cancer patients and cancer survivors

- Action in Spain to adapt the working conditions of cancer patients **Loly Fernández Carou**, Spain
- What is known about discrimination of cancer patients in the field of employment and working conditions **Monique Rabussier**, CFDT, France
- Critical perspective on return-to-work policies **Lies Michielsen**, Progress Lawyers Network Antwerpen, Belgium
- The Europe of social disparities in cancer **Lydia Makaroff**, European Cancer Patient Coalition
- Discussion

Session 3: Double invisibility of work-related cancer for women

- Critical perspective on the attributable fraction – gender bias against women? **Emilie Counil**, INED, France
- Breast cancer and occupational exposure **Henri Bastos**, ANSES, France
- The NOCCA study: how the analysis of data from the cancer registry can contribute to identify work-related cancer among women **Eero Pukkala**, Institute for Statistical and Epidemiological Cancer Research, Finland
- Roundtable discussion with Policy makers, **Marita Ulvskog** (MEP), **Stefan Olsson** (COM), **Andrea Kernmayer** (AT Presidency), **Marian Schaapman** (ETUC)