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BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN SCIENCE AND PRACTICE



## Book of Abstracts

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## Musculoskeletal system disorders in agricultural workers in Ukraine

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The present-day socio-economic situation in Ukraine doesn't contribute to creation of safe work conditions. The main causes of morbidity at enterprises of agricultural type are organizational, technical and technological errors, infringement of hygienic and sanitary standards. The parameters of microclimate do not correspond to hygienic standards, levels of noise and vibration and often exceed permissible levels.

The diseases of the musculoskeletal system are characterized by a long-term course and by a considerable degree of morbidity - 75,0%; for diseases of the peripheral nervous system the last index is comparatively low --43,0%. In general, the situation with the prevalence of occupational diseases of the musculoskeletal and peripheral nervous systems points to its imperfectness to work conditions.

The researches were conducted in Ukraine in cattle breeding and in meat-processing plants. 934 persons were examined. The average age of the examined persons was 47 years, work experience in the cattle breeding was about 6,3 years , in meat processing – 7,2 years.

The pathology of the musculoskeletal system was found in 34 % of the examined persons, which accounted for 50,7% of all persons with the revealed pathologies. The most frequent diseases were: osteochondrosis of the vertebral with the secondary radicular syndrome, metabolic polyarthritis deforming arthrosis, epicondylitis.

The structure of orthopaedic pathology of meat-processing workers was following: osteochondrosis, deformation of feet, deforming artrosis of knee, periarthrit, rheumatic polyartrit, metabolic polyartrit, tendovaginitis, deforming artrosis of the talocrural joint, neuritis of sciatic nerve.

The following prophylactic measures may be undertaken in order to prevent the risk of musculoskeletal system disorders:

- permitting the use of machinery which satisfy all hygienic and ergonomic standards;
- occupational selection at admission to work;
- observance of hygienic standards concerning hazardous factors of the production environment at workplaces;
- training employees in the principles of occupational safety and hygiene.