# Health Match Making Day 2019

# Occupational and Environmental Health Research Projects



# Microbial environment and autoimmune diseases: a long-term follow-up study of pigeon breeders

Pigeon breeders are in daily and close contact with pigeons and a rich microbial environment that may protect them against autoimmune diseases. This study includes 7000 pigeon breeders with detailed exposure information and 350 000 matched controls followed for autoimmune diseases since 1980. Results will contribute to our understanding of why autoimmune diseases are on the rise.

#### Organic dust, endotoxin exposure and asthma: a follow up study of farmers

High levels of organic dust and endotoxin may increase the risk of non-allergic asthma and have the opposite effect on allergic asthma. This study includes 2400 dust exposed farmers and controls followed for 15 years with lung function and skin-prick tests. Results will impact the direction of preventive measures and the understanding of causes of different asthma phenotypes.

# Occupational exposures and shoulder disorders: a cross-sectional study of surgery patients

Little is known about the long-term prognosis following shoulder surgery. This study includes 1900 workers who underwent shoulder surgery. Information on shoulder exposure, shoulder pain and physical functioning is based on registers, questionnaires and a job exposure matrix. Results will influence the counselling of workers with shoulder disorders.

## Occupational wood dust exposure and risk of sinonasal cancer: a follow study of exposure-response

Occupational wood dust exposure is a well-documented cause of sinonasal adenocarcinoma, but knowledge about the shape of the exposure-response relation is lacking. This study includes 330 000 workers with quantitative information on wood dust exposure levels since 1970. Results will guide national as well as international evidence based regulatory exposure limits.

#### Ototoxic effects of styrene exposure and noise: a study of highexposed reinforced plastics workers

Styrene exposure deteriorates hearing in animal studies. But little is known about the exposure-response relation and the interaction with concomitant noise exposure in humans. This study includes a cohort of reinforced plastics workers exposed to high levels of styrene and noise, examined by audiometry. The study will gain insight into some causal mechanisms of hearing loss, that affects most people by increasing age.

## Identification of musculoskeletal health care encounters: an algorithm for general practice

The national health and social registers are widely use in epidemiological research but include no diagnostic information from primary care. This study validates if an algorithm correctly identifies musculoskeletal disorders in general practice.





