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FORUM NEWS

Activities of the Working Groups

Working Group Occupational Diseases

Group “leader”: Dr. méd. Anja Zyska Cherix

The working group on occupational diseases was established in 2020 and members from different countries participate every year in this working group to exchange views on this important subject.

During the European Forum, which took place from June 7 to 9, 2023 in Helsinki, the members of the working group mainly discussed mental health and the current state of affairs at the European Union level. Another main topic of discussion covered the EU Commission’s Initiative 2023 on mental health and its concerns regarding teleworking and the right for employees to disconnect.

Another subject was the risk mapping of mental stress factors and disorders in specific workplaces, which is a project of Suva. This project is about identifying burnout and depression, and studies show that some industries are more affected than others. The health and social sectors, as well as the hotel and catering industries, are heavily affected. Perspective studies are needed to identify the mental health risks.

In addition, the position paper on mental health was further discussed.

The next topics to be discussed by the working group will be skin cancer as well as UV protection.

During the plenary session, Dr. méd. Anja Zyska Cherix from Switzerland presented the report of the working group and then the European Commissioner of the German Social Security, Ilka Wölfle, reported on the latest developments at EU level and thus also on the latest achievements of the EU Commission’s Initiative 2023 on mental health. ●

Anne Weber
Accident Insurance Association
www.aaa.lu