اعداد: علي صبري ناصر,صابرين رياض محسن ,مريم أيوب عبد الصاحب ورجاء احمد عزو وصبا محمد سالم   
أشراف: د. علي كريم المحترم

**Occupational health for nurses**Occupational health refers to the identification and control of the risks arising from physical, chemical, and other workplace hazards in order to establish and maintain a safe and healthy working environment

Health care facilities around the world employ over 59 million workers who are exposed to a complex variety of health and safety hazards everyday including:

1- Biological hazards, such as TB, Hepatitis, HIV/AIDS.

2- Chemical hazards, such as, ethylene oxide;

3- Physical hazards, such as noise, radiation, slips trips;

4- Ergonomic hazards, such as heavy lifting;

5- Psychosocial hazards, such as shift work, violence and stress;

6- Fire and explosion hazards, such as using oxygen, alcohol sanitizing gels;

7- Electrical hazards, such as frayed electrical cords.

* Occupational Health Nurses (OHN)
* Are registered nurses who independently observe and assess the worker's health status with respect to job tasks and hazards. Using their specialized experience and education, these registered nurses recognize and prevent health effects from hazardous exposures and treat workers' injuries/illnesses.
* Infectious Disease - Nurses care for patients with contagious diseases. The exposure to such a variety of bacteria and germs predisposes a nurse to diseases like hepatitis B, Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), Clostridium difficile (C. diff), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and tuberculosis (TB).
* Needlestick Injuries - Accidental needlestick injuries are common in the healthcare industry. In the U.S., statistics report that for every 100 hospital beds in the country, 30 workers suffer from such an injury every year. This represents an astounding 800,000 needlesticks a year.
* Back Injury - Lifting, pulling turning and transporting patients predispose a nurse to a potential back injury. There is 38 percent of the nursing workforce who report a back injury every year.
* Latex Allergy - Latex gloves help to prevent disease transmission. There are roughly 8-10 percent of healthcare workers who demonstrate a latex allergy. A wide variety of reactions are associated with such an allergy, which range from dermatitis and/or asthma to an anaphylactic response.Vinyl gloves are an acceptable and commonly used replacement for latex gloves.
* Radiation Exposure - A nurse need not be based in the radiology department to be exposed to the risks of radiation..
* Toxic Chemical Exposure - There are many toxic chemicals in the medical workplace. Chemotherapy drugs are carcinogens and create a health risk for nurses.
* Emotional and Physical Stress - The intense emotional stress of caring for sick and/or terminal patients affects nurses on a regular basis.
* Workload Overload - The ongoing debate about nurse-to-patient ratio in the clinical setting exemplifies this potential occupational hazard. There is an increased workload plus more critically ill patients for whom to care. Often, overtime enters into this domain and creates even a greater workload.
* Violence in the Workplace - For the record, medical facilities, especially mental health and emergency departments, have the most significant rate of non-fatal violence in the workplace.