

## **AAOHN 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Summit Synopses**

**By Norman Brown**, Association Editor for Global Practice,  
AAOHN's *Workplace Health & Safety* Journal

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Session 900

**“New Opportunities to Impact Health and Well-Being  
Across the Business Chain”**

**Eileen McNeely, PhD, MS, RNC**

The first speaker set the tone of the Summit by presenting an excellent overview of the profound challenges facing the planet. Specifically, this presentation highlighted trends in global population dynamics, environmental degradation and described how these elements have negatively impacted workers and their families in a variety of developing nations.

Raised consciousness regarding how corporate entities can be more holistic in promoting healthy life choices, reducing risk of disability and increasing productivity.

Presented a paradigm for health and wellness that is designed to help corporate entities promote well-being among their employees and the communities where they live.

Session 901:

**“A Review of Evidence-Based O.H. Service Models in  
England”**

**Helen Kirk, MA, BSc (HONs), BA, RN, RM, SCPHN**

Provided a detailed overview of comprehensive community-/public health programs in England focusing on OH initiatives. The OH issues addressed included the

fragmentation of services due to inconsistent coordination of resources dedicated to worker injury and illness. Recommendations included, but were not limited to, increasing access to OH medical services by increasing the number of OH providers, improving OH education among all health-related practitioners and enhanced coordination of OH interdisciplinary teams. This presentation stressed the importance of implementing comprehensive standards for OH services, developing OH accreditation standards for all OH providers and outcome oriented research-based continuous quality of OH services.

#### Session 902

“Inter-Country Partnership in Asia to promote the Advancement of Occupational Health Nursing”

Butch de Castro, PhD, MSN/MPH, RN

Eularito Tagalog, RN, COHN

Orawana Kaewboonchoo, PhD

Kazuko Nishida, MS

Philippine Occ. Safety and Health standards require nurses to have specific education in epidemiology, toxicology and physical assessment. A vigorous Q&A session illuminated the scope of work related illness and injury in a variety of industries including chemical exposures.

Thailand’s national agencies addressing OH health and safety were detailed. OH initiatives that focus on both private and public sector resources were described. OHN nursing’s role and scope were described. The various educational programs specifically addressing OHN development from relatively short seminar courses to the masters degree were discussed in detail.

Japan's OHN history and practice evolution were described in detail. Approximately 100 years of nurses' involvement in manufacturing settings was described. Careful assessment of the demands of rapidly expanding industrialization in Japan has been undertaken and there are strategies formulated to improve the preparation of nurses in OH. This discussion provided the background for a vivid overview of contemporary strategies for OHN preparation in Japan.

### Session 903

"Global Health Scorecard Toolkits for a Non-smoking Campus, Stress Management Training and Health Fairs"

Aine Scully, MBA, H. Dip. in Applied Science, RN

Letha Smith, MS, RN, COHN-S

Developed in the U.K. and used in 11 other countries a unique "scorecard" approach was designed to help evaluate the effectiveness of OHN initiatives focusing on smoking cessation, stress management training and the implementation of health fairs. Discussion included the adopting policies that support affirmative health behavior changes, implementing programs that incentivize employee participation and evaluating each program's effectiveness. Data collected by the scorecard methodology is analyzed and barriers to achieving specific goals are identified.

Strategies for improving employee participation are developed by teams comprised of OH practitioners and representatives from administration/management. The importance of OHN and administrative cooperation and communication is deemed essential to program success.

#### Session 904

##### “Resilience: Enhancing Human Performance Globally”

Dana Werner, BSN, RN, CBES, CCM, COHN-S

Presentation described resilience, ‘... as the ability to bounce back from difficulties and adapt to change.

Presented strategies to help supervisors recognize when employees are stressed and described team building techniques to foster collaboration among managers and employees in making reasoned decisions under the pressure of production deadlines. Leadership buy-in is seen as critical to the success of teams that form to provide mutual support and promote employee resilience.

#### Session 905

##### “Shrinking Globe and Growing Risks: Addressing Travel Health Issues Faced by Employees”

Mary Pesch, MPH, MSN, RN, FNP-BC

Megan Ruckert, BSN, RN, COHN-S

This presentation detailed selected viral and bacterial infectious diseases that threaten not only traveling employees but their families and communities. Examples of disease-causing agents included: H5N1 or “Bird Flu,” “SARS” virus and reemerging diseases, such as Measles and Polio. Presentation included resources for monitoring and reporting unusual or drug resistant infectious agents.

#### Session 906

“Past, Present and Future of OHN Practice in Hungary and New Zealand”

Henriett Hirdi, PhD

Janice Riegen, MHSc, BN, Dip HSc, RN

Presenters highlighted the 100+ years of OHN evolution in both education and practice in their respective countries. OHN involvement in diverse industries from mine safety to factory workers.

Session 907

“Vulnerable Populations: Health and Safety Strategies for a Global Workforce”

Dawn Stone, PhD(c), ANP, RN, COHN-S

Barbara Burgel, PhD, RN, COHN-S, FAAN, FAAOHN

OiSaeng Hong, PhD, RN, FAAN

Salah Azad, PhD

Presenters stressed the need for global trade policies that provide vigilance and foster cooperation among countries that eliminate the exploitation of vulnerable populations. Workforces in developing countries are often comprised of vulnerable populations, such as, children and women who are often living in poverty even though they are employed. Garment workers in Bangladesh dying in sub-standard factories is one example of how international trade agreements addressing workplace safety are urgently needed.

Session 908

Posters: No notes taken

Session #909

“Innovative Solutions for Global Health and Poverty”

Eric Bing, MD, PhD, MBA  
No notes taken

Monday

Session #910

“Scientific Committee on Occupational Health Nursing”

Louwna J. Petorius, RN, B Soc Sc HON

Susan Randolph, MSN, RN, COHN-S, FAAOHN

Presentation reviewed the 40-year history of SCOHN and compared educational preparation of various OH professionals, such as, nurse practitioners, physicians, and occ. hygienists with an emphasis on the future.

Session #911

“Harmonizing Medical Case Management Programs Across Borders”

Kathleen Dean, RN, COHN

Mike Tagami, Reg.MS, PHN, OHN, RN

Presentation included strategies for multidisciplinary case management in Japan and other countries. Emphasis was placed on the need to standardize employee health records and the advantages of portable electronic medical records. Many CM teams are nurse managed depending on access to care and cultural acceptance. Issues contributing to workers illnesses include mental health, drug abuse, social pressures and medical complications. Recommendations derived from the study called for a dedicated staff person to provide ongoing educational programs and to monitor staff injuries.

Session #912

“Nurse-led Educational Campaign to Reduce Risk of needle Stick Injuries at Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar ES Salaam Tanzania”

Millen Charles Ringo, MSc, BSc, RN

Comprehensive staff development campaign strategies were described. Creative methods, developed by both supervisors and staff were employed for engaging staff in stick prevention. An emphasis was placed on changing workplace culture to insure long term safety practices.

#913

Louwna Pretorias, RN, B Soc SC Hon

Kim Davies, RN, RM, RCN, RPH

“OHN Practice Models in South Africa”

This presentation included a comprehensive history of OH nursing in S. Africa including the establishment of advanced practice nursing. Detailed evolution of the role and scope of OHN practice citing strengths and weaknesses was clearly stated. Recommendations are being proposed to have OHN certification as a post-B.S.N. achievement. The OHN works in collaboration with other multidisciplinary providers to plan, implement and evaluate care particularly in mining industries. There are isolated regions where health care resources are scarce.

#914

“Leading for Occupational Health – “A Perspective on  
Global Implementation to Local Execution”

Tara O’Leary, RGN, OHN, MIOSH

Presentataion noted core values of leadership which are deemed keys to program success, such as trust, integrity the ability to inspire others, creative thinking/innovation, providing mutual support and rewarding success as appropriate. Leaders must be willing to take ownership when successful and when encountering failure. Good leaders will always consider core values of those most impacted when implementing policies.