



**ICOH 2006-2008 TRIENNIUM  
MIDTERM SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MIDTERM REPORT  
Covering June 2006 – October 2007**

Note: We are using an identical format for the SC Midterm and Final Reports. Each covers a specified timeframe. **The SC Midterm Report covers June 2006 – October 31, 2007. Please return it no later than December 1, 2007 to:**

Vice President Marilyn Fingerhut [mfingerhut@cdc.gov](mailto:mfingerhut@cdc.gov) and  
Secretary General Sergio Iavicoli [sergio.iavicoli@ispesl.it](mailto:sergio.iavicoli@ispesl.it)

**The SC Midterm Report will be maintained on the ICOH Scientific Committee Virtual Office at [www.icohweb.org/scvo](http://www.icohweb.org/scvo).**

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**Submitted by Scientific Committee: ICOH SC Musculoskeletal Disorders  
Date: 30 November 2007**

**Chairman: Prof dr Laura Punnett**  
Email address: [Laura\\_Punnett@uml.edu](mailto:Laura_Punnett@uml.edu)

From year: August, 2007

**Secretary: dr P. Paul F.M. Kuijer**  
Email address: [p.p.kuijer@amc.uva.nl](mailto:p.p.kuijer@amc.uva.nl)

From year: August, 2007

**SC Website URL: -**

**Other SC Means of Communications:** By email within committee

**Focus and aim of Scientific Committee:** Prevention of work-related musculoskeletal disorders; exchange of scientific knowledge

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**PART I – ACTIVITIES: Business meetings, Conferences, Seminars and Workshops  
Midterm Report: June 2006-September 30, 2007**

*Please note collaborations with other SCs, WHO, ILO and NGOs.*

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**1) Business meeting:**

Venue: 28<sup>th</sup> International conference of ICOH, Milan, Italy

Date: Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> of June, 2006

Number of attendees: about 15

Date report sent to VP Fingerhut (Please use Business Report form in SC Virtual Office at <http://www.icohweb.org/scvo/>): 28 June, 2006

**2) Business meeting:**

Venue: Sixth International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (PREMUS), Boston MA, United States of America

Date: Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> of August

Number of attendees: about 45

Date report sent to VP Fingerhut (Please use Business Report form in SC Virtual Office at <http://www.icohweb.org/scvo/>): not yet, will be done before Christmas day 2007

### Conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Courses, etc:

(please fill in the tables)

|  |   |                |                 |               |              |
|--|---|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>(1) Name of the event:</b>                                  | Sixth International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (PREMUS)  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Type of event:</b>  | <b>Conference</b>   | <b>Seminar</b> | <b>Workshop</b> | <b>Course</b> | <b>Other</b> |
|  | X   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 27–30 August 2007   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Venue:</b>  | Boston MA, United States of America   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Organizers:</b>   | Laura Punnett, Jack Dennerlein, Glenn Pransky, Jamie Tessler, and Nick Warren   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Co-organizers and Collaborators: Please describe roles.</b> | The International Scientific Committee (subset of the MSD SC – see list at <a href="http://www.premus2007.org/committees.htm">http://www.premus2007.org/committees.htm</a> ) assisted with selecting themes and keynote speakers, offered advice on conference schedule and logistics, etc. MSD SC members (and other recruited colleagues) reviewed abstracts and ranked them for oral/poster presentation, and some of the same people also judged student abstracts. |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Number of participants:</b>                                 | 470 participants from 36 countries  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Publication of proceedings:</b>                             | -   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Book of abstracts:</b>                                      | Hard copy volume distributed to all participants. Electronic version available on CD from Laura Punnett and on-line at: <a href="http://www.premus2007.org/searchabstracts.htm">http://www.premus2007.org/searchabstracts.htm</a>   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Book of selected proceedings:</b>                           | -   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Special issue of peer reviewed journals:</b>                | -   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Assessment of success:</b>                                  | A very well organized scientific conference with a record number of attending participants from all over the world!   |                |                 |               |              |

|                                |  |                |                 |               |              |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>(2) Name of the event:</b>  | What's the use and scientific quality of Functional Capacity Evaluation (FCE) in occupational health         |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Type of event:</b>          | <b>Conference</b>  | <b>Seminar</b> | <b>Workshop</b> | <b>Course</b> | <b>Other</b> |
|                                |  |                |                 |               | X            |
| <b>Date:</b>                   | Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> of June, 2006  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Venue:</b>                  | 28 <sup>th</sup> International Congress of ICOH, Milan, Italy  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Organizers:</b>             | Paul Kuijer, Judith Sluiter and Monique Frings-Dresen  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Number of participants:</b> | About 20   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Book of abstracts:</b>      | ICOH proceedings   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Assessment of success:</b>  | Invited four oral presentation of renowned experts from Canada, the Netherlands and United States of America |                |                 |               |              |

|                                |  |                |                 |               |              |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>(3) Name of the event:</b>  | <b>Other ICOH Congress sessions organized and/or chaired by MSD Scientific Committee:</b><br>- Musculoskeletal disorders (2 sessions)<br>- Prevention of MSD in problematic sectors<br>- MSD in the health care sector: Patients handling<br>- Musculoskeletal disorders in computer operators<br>- Strategy and experience of MSD prevention in large manufacturing companies<br>- MSDs: Clinical aspects<br>- MSDs and rehabilitation<br>- Upper and lower extremity disorders: Population studies |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Type of event:</b>          | <b>Conference</b>  | <b>Seminar</b> | <b>Workshop</b> | <b>Course</b> | <b>Other</b> |
|                                |  |                |                 |               | X            |
| <b>Date:</b>                   | 11-16 June 2006  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Venue:</b>                  | 28 <sup>th</sup> International Congress of ICOH, Milan, Italy  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Organizers:</b>             |  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Number of participants:</b> | Varying between 20 and about 80 participants   |                |                 |               |              |

|                                |  |                |                 |               |              |
|--------------------------------|--|----------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>(4) Name of the event:</b>  | <b>Pre-conference event:</b> “Criteria for case definition of upper limb musculoskeletal diseases in the occupational setting” |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Type of event:</b>          | <b>Conference</b>  | <b>Seminar</b> | <b>Workshop</b> | <b>Course</b> | <b>Other</b> |
|                                |  |                |                 | X             |              |
| <b>Date:</b>                   | 9 June 2006  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Venue:</b>                  | University of Bologna, Italy   |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Organizers:</b>             | Francesco Violante, Roberta Bonfiglioli, Stefano Mattioli  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Number of participants:</b> | -  |                |                 |               |              |
| <b>Assessment of success:</b>  | -  |                |                 |               |              |

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**PART II Midterm Report: SC Products and Collaborations June 2006 – September 30, 2007  
Publications, Guidelines\*, Position Papers\*, etc**

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**Publications, Proceedings, Guidelines\*, Position Papers\*, etc.** Provide title, authors, full citation. SCs are encouraged to produce ICOH Guidelines\* and Position Papers\*. \*Guidelines and Position Papers must be approved by the ICOH SC Vice Presidents, Secretary General and President.

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**Cooperation with other Scientific Committees:** (If cooperation in a Conference not listed above, provide title, dates, location and role of each SC. Provide relevant details of other collaborations with SCs.)

**Participation and support to WHO – ILO meetings and or publications:** (If cooperation in a Conference not listed above, provide title, dates, location and role of each. Provide relevant details of other collaborations with WHO and/or ILO.)

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**Cooperation with non-ICOH organizations:** (If cooperation in a Conference not listed above, provide title, dates, location and role of each. Provide relevant details of collaborations other than conferences.)

Technical Committee on Musculoskeletal Disorders of the International Ergonomics Association

**Any other points of relevance:**

Plenary Keynote address, “Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders in Men and Women: Is the Burden Equitably Distributed?” by Prof. Dr. Laura Punnett at 28<sup>th</sup> International conference of ICOH, Milan, Italy 2006

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**PART III Midterm Report: SC PLANS for second half of Triennium and for ICOH 2009:  
October 1, 2007 – March 30, 2009**

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**Planned business meetings, conferences, seminars:** (provide title, location, date if possible)

Seventh International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (PREMUS), 2010, Angers, France

Eighth International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (PREMUS), 2013, Busan, Korea

**Planned collaborative Activities with other ICOH Scientific Committees:** (Provide Conference title, dates, location and role of each SC. Provide relevant details of other collaborations with SCs.)

PREMUS 2010 will be jointly sponsored with the new SC on Work Disability Prevention and Integration

**Planned collaborative Activities with other (Non-ICOH) Organizations:** (Provide Conference title, dates, location and role of the SC. Provide relevant details of collaborations other than conferences.)

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**Planned Publications, Position papers, etc.:** (Provide title, authors, timeframe, publication, if known)

An effort is underway to determine whether the draft document on surveillance of ergonomic hazards and MSDs, prepared by some committee members in the 1990s, might still be suitable for updating and publishing in collaboration with the WHO.

**Planned Scientific Contributions to ICOH 2009:** (Be specific: List title of scientific sessions, speakers, abstract reviewers, business meeting, etc.)

Oral Session Proposal T38, “Musculoskeletal risks, disorders, and solutions,” to be co-organized with the SC on Work Organization and Psychosocial Factors.

**Any other points of relevance:**

The SC would like to have access to the committee’s page of the ICOH website, for posting SC news, calls for participation in specific events, a link to the websites for PREMUS 2007 and PREMUS 2010, etc.

A Latin American MSD network (in Spanish & Portuguese), within the MSD SC was established at PREMUS 2007. It is currently coordinated by Dr. Maria Brunette, at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. Initial plans include creation of a Spanish-language page within the SC website, and development of a cross-national survey of MSD symptoms and organizational risk factors.

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**PART IV – Assessment of Success of SC and Impact on Global Occupational Health**

**We want to understand and share widely the value and impact of the work of the Scientific Committees on improving global occupational health. Please look back into the past and provide an assessment.**

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**Midterm Report:** Please assess the success of the SC and its influence in improving global occupational health as a result of the work *prior to* the current Triennium. Give examples where possible.

The World Health Organisation has declared the decade from 2000-2010 as the bone and joint decade: <http://www.boneandjointdecade.org/>. The more than 80 members from 24 countries of the ICOH SC on Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs) play a key role in better understanding how work attributes to the onset and aggravation of these disorders and how work-related interventions can be successful in return to work for patients with MSDs. Moreover, members strive to put this topic on the research and policy agenda in their countries. The last PREMUS conference in Boston with a record number of participants from more than 35 countries acknowledges this fact.

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**PART V – Evaluation of this Midterm Report form.**

\_\_\_\_\_ This form is acceptable

\_\_\_\_\_ This form should be changed. Please recommend changes.

*Some of the items indicated for each Conference/Other Event are not self-explanatory and require clarification as to what information is sought.*

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**PART VI – List of Members of Scientific Committee (provide full name and email address)**

**Name:**      **Email address:**

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*Thank you for completing this form.*