

COMPARATIVE STUDY REGARDING DIFFERENT INTERPRETATION METHODS OF THE MATERIAL RESULTED FROM AUDIOMETRY CONTROL

Corina Tania Ferastraeru, Mihaela Licurici, Eugenia Herlea, Greta Nita, Nuti Deliu

Institute of Public Health Bucharest

INTRODUCTION.

The study was realized because of the necessity to harmonize our country law regarding to occupational hearing handicaps indicators with the law applied in the countries members of the European Community.

MATERIAL AND METHOD.

We used methods corresponding to the following purposes:

- determination of occupational stable and intermittent noise exposure using Sound Level Meter Bruel & Kjaer type 2218;
- the group was made of 96 female-weaves and 94 male-cinders;
- functional examination of the hearing was made with the Clinic Audiometer Pracitronic MA31, at the frequencies: 500, 1000, 2000 and 4000 Hz;
- the results obtained by audiometry were purchased by 3 estimation methods and finally we compared this results and to decide which is the best method to declare the occupational hypoacusis and deafness.

RESULTS.

The measurement done at the working places had put in light workers occupational noise exposure with a maximal admitted level exceed from 90 dB(A) to 98 dB(A).

The 3 methods had underline rising tendency for the levels of the hearing loss at the high frequencies bigger for the male than the women's subjects.

Regarding the relationship between the oldness in work and the average levels of the hearing loss we had seen that for the oldness in work groups 16 - 20 years and over 20 years appear significant differences between the curves corresponding to the method that do not respect the sex criteria towards the method that process distinct the male and female subjects.

CONCLUSIONS

The results of our study confirm the fact that the global approach of the hearing loss problem, regardless the sex criteria is not available any more.

We suggest to be used the method mentioned in the National Standard "Acoustic determination of occupational noise exposure and estimation of noise-induced hearing impairment", identical with International Standard ISO 1999: 1990, Acustics-Determination of occupational noise exposure and estimation of noise - induced hearing impairment.

* Collaborators: Mariana Negulescu, Mariana Dumitrof, Mihai Mihalache, Mioara Baltatu.