



International League of Dermatological Societies

Skin Health for the World

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Dear Friends and Colleagues,

National regulations on workers' protection from UV radiation and sunbed use survey

Through our *Official Relations* status with the World Health Organisation (WHO), the ILDS works closely with several WHO departments, including the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Health. We have been asked to support the collection of current national regulations covering UV-inflicted skin cancers affecting outdoor workers.

The common types of skin cancer acquired by outdoor workers are the keratinocytic cancers, also, commonly (though incorrectly) referred to as non-melanoma skin cancer (NMSC). The highest association with cumulative UV-exposure, characteristic for outdoor work, is for Actinic Keratoses (AK) and invasive cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma (cSCC), where the risk for outdoor workers is at least doubled compared for to the average population. Regarding Basal Cell Carcinoma (BCC), a recent study has shown that BCC risks doubles with a lifetime occupational UV-exposure above 6,126 SED (1SED=100J/m²). The same risks of acquiring these different forms of skin cancer pertain to sunbed use, which has significantly increased over the past years. In many instances, countries still lack specific regulations governing the use of artificial tanning sunbeds.

The WHO therefore aims at compiling an inventory of current national regulations covering UV-inflicted skin cancers affecting outdoor workers (e.g. farmers and agriculture workers, construction workers, sea-farers, harbour workers, postmen, bath attendants, kindergarten nurses, etc.) and the use of artificial tanning sunbeds.

We would be grateful if you could spend a few minutes in responding to this [survey](#) to help gather this important information, which the WHO has requested. If your country does not currently have regulations please inform us via the [survey](#) as well.

Kind regards,

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