



THURSDAY 8 SEPTEMBER 2011

Welcome to the FOM Newsletter.

### In this issue...

#### Participants invited for occupational health service audits

In partnership with the Royal College of Physicians, the Faculty of Occupational Medicine runs the Health and Work Development Unit (HWDU). This innovative unit was established in 2007 and is the first national clinical effectiveness unit devoted to identifying and promulgating sound evidence-base practice in occupational health services.

HWDU has established a strong reputation for running high-quality, evidence-based national clinical and organisational audits to support implementation of evidence-based best practice, with a strong focus on engagement and change management and not simply data collection. Importantly the work to date has measured improvements in clinical practice.

HWDU's work in the occupational health field includes clinical audits of depression detection and management of staff on long-term sickness absence, and back pain management, accompanied by dissemination and implementation activities such as national conferences, regional workshops, action planning support and slide sets. The work has also covered the development of evidence-based guidelines on occupational aspects of the management of latex allergy, upper limb disorder, VZV, dermatitis, infected food handlers and physical and shift work in pregnancy. These are all freely available at:

<http://www.rcplondon.ac.uk/resources/clinical-resources/health-and-work>

Now seeking to extend its support to occupational health services beyond its current parameters of the NHS in England, HDWU would like your views on participating in subscription audits.

The Faculty and Society of Occupational Medicine would like to encourage all our members to consider this and to respond to a **very** short survey (at most three questions) [here](#) so we would be grateful if you could take a few moments to do this.

(You may receive this twice, if you are a member of both FOM and SOM, but if so please ignore the second one.)

Olivia Carlton and Henry Goodall  
Presidents  
Faculty and Society of Occupational Medicine

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With best wishes

*Nicky Coates*

Nicky Coates  
Chief Executive

