

Maritime Health in Oceanic and Offshore Racing

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IMHA – WHO ARE WE?

- An association of maritime health professionals
- Wide range of disciplines
- Committed to improving the health of seafarers by developing better approaches to
 - Health protection
 - Health promotion
 - Medical treatment, both locally and internationally
- Aimst to be the umbrella association for all national societies and associations of maritime medicine



WHAT IMHA DOES

- Undertake research to investigate the importance of different risks and effectiveness of the interventions used to treat seafarer health problems
- Use research results to improve maritime health practice
- Share knowledge in international cooperation
- Advise decision-takers, like UN agencies, with closest links to the IMO, ILO, IOM and WHO
- Advise the social partners of the industry – most often the ISF and ITF
- Organize conferences, workshops, symposia
- Publish Scientific Journal and Newsletters



IMHA *International Maritime Health Association*



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IMHA Cooperation in our new strategy:

IMHA subsidiaries and networks:

- IMHA Research
- IMHA Telemedicine
- IMHA Education and Training
- IMHA Port Health Care and Repatriation
- IMHA Health promotion and welfare
- IMHA Quality



IMHA Workshops in the past

- Health in the fishing industry
 - Psychosocial health problems
 - Training for maritime health professionals
 - Quality assurance in maritime health care
 - Ship Medicine Chest
 - Maritime Telemedicine
 - Colour vision in seafaring
 - IMHA Strategy
- Cadiz 2002
- Riga 2004
- Barcelona 2005
- Mumbai 2006
- Athens 2010
- Malta 2013
- Kobe 2014
- London 2014



WORKSHOPS – PLANNING IN PROGRESS

- Medical emergencies on board ships London 2015
- Water hygiene on ships 2015/2016
- Standards for medical examination of fishermen 2015/2016
- Maritime health in oceanic & Offshore Racing 2015/2016



Workshop planning

- We will make a difference - hence we do things on purpose
- We know what we want to do - hence we define our objectives
- We know the steps to take - therefore we define our goals
- We know why we want to do it - it complies with our policy
- We give it priority - because it concerns us



Workshops - process

- Draft proposal should be developed
- Organisation and format of workshop should be decided
- Key persons should be identified
- **OUTPUT:** Consensus paper that
 - should be published in scientific journals
 - Should form an IMHA position paper
- **OUTCOME** should benefit the health of those who work at sea and help to improve safety and operational efficiency in the maritime sector



Workshop - finances

- IMHA is dependent on external financing of workshops
- Finances usually come from the industry, social partners, funders established by the industry
 - Examples:
 - ITF Seafarers Trust: Focus on merchant seafarers
 - TK Foundation: Focus on improvint seafarers' health
 - Some workshops are cooperationes, where participating experts get expenses covered by their home institutions
- What do we do with finances regarding ocean and offshore sailing?



Next IMGs

- Will WHO ever revise it?
- Will other partners cooperate on producing an alternative?
 - Danish initiative for a new national guide
 - Ideas for dissemination and adjustments to international needs
- Different aspects to cover:
 - Training and refresher training manual
 - Reference book
 - Ship medicine chest
 - Disease and accident prevention (OHS)
 - New technology – telemedicine / internet / interactive cooperation

The needs for consistency

- Training of on board personnel:
- Courses and guide should correspond
- Medical equipment on board:
- Equipment should be suitable, and be described
- Medicines available:
- Medicines should be appropriate and correspond to advice given
- Telemedical advice:
- TMAS services should be an integrated part of the system



Where are we in offshore and ocean sailing/racing?