

# WORK-RELATED CANCER

BARCELONA | 18<sup>th</sup> JUNE

## AN INVISIBLE REALITY



WES Workers' Exposure Survey

2026 AÑO  
DE LA SEGURIDAD Y SALUD EN EL TRABAJO

# WORK-RELATED CANCER

## AN INVISIBLE REALITY

BARCELONA  
18<sup>th</sup> JUNE

**Moderator:** Elena Malavía Postigo, INSST

This is an Online event in Spanish with English subtitles available  
To attend the online event, please [register here](#).

Cancer is the main cause of work-related deaths in the European Union (EU). It is estimated that around 120,000 people in Europe develop cancer each year as a result of exposure to carcinogens in the workplace, causing almost 80,000 deaths. These cancers are often caused by failures to identify the presence of carcinogens in the workplace and to comply with occupational risk prevention regulations. In Spain, it is estimated that 8,700 men and 850 women die annually from cancers caused by occupational exposure (Ministry of Health, 2020).

However, the number of cancers recognised as occupational diseases represents only a small fraction of the total, meaning the majority remain hidden under the category of common illness. In this context, the link between cancer and work remains largely invisible. And behind these figures, we must not forget that there are people who, because of their work, have developed cancer, a disease that causes great suffering and affects their quality of life and that of their families.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (INSST), O.A., M.P., in its role as National Reference Centre of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), is organising this conference in conjunction with the OSH Spanish Network (RESST). The conference is part of the promotional activities for the Worker's Exposure Environment Survey on cancer risk factors in Europe (WES).

The project aims to improve identification of the main cancer risk factors, providing information to assist in the development of preventive measures, awareness-raising initiatives, and policies to combat occupational cancer. The conference will raise awareness of work-related cancer and emphasise the need for action on issues such as identifying risk factors and adopting preventive measures to protect workers.

## PROGRAMA

### Opening

Montserrat Solórzano Fàbrega, Director of the National Centre for Working Conditions, INSST

### Keynote address: 'Exposure to risk factors in Europe'

Marine Cavet, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)

### Panel 1: Occupational cancer, from evidence to action

**Chair:** Rocío Guevara de Bonis, INSST

• **Challenges in the epidemiology of occupational cancer**

Marta Zimmermann Verdejo, INSST

• **Initiatives promoted by the National Agenda for the Prevention of Occupational Cancer**

M<sup>a</sup> Jesús Terradillos García, ITSS

• **Initiatives promoted by the Catalan Labour Inspectorate (ITC)**

Montserrat Macià Suades, INSST

### Panel 2: Identifying, raising awareness and increasing visibility

**Chair:** Xavier Solans Lampurlanés, INSST

• **Exposure to respirable crystalline silica (RCS) in foundry work**

Fernando Javier Rodríguez Puertas, Cantabrian Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

• **Exposure to carcinogens: Does gender matter?**

Mayte Martín Bustamante, Catalan Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

• **Actions to raise awareness and visibility**

Virginia Gálvez Pérez, INSST

### Panel 3: From invisibility to recognition

**Chair:** Sara González Hurst, INSST

• **Sentinel network for occupational paranasal sinus cancer**

Laura Mezquita Pérez, Hospital Clínic de Barcelona

• **Case studies of suspected occupational cancer: a perspective from occupational hygiene**

Eduardo Menéndez Dizu, Asturian Institute for Occupational Risk Prevention

### Closing remarks

M<sup>a</sup> Jesús Terradillos García, Director of the Department of Health Promotion and Occupational Epidemiology, INSST



ONLINE