

# Occupational and Environmental Medicine: The Best Kept Secret!

## What is Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM)?

- The prevention and treatment of occupational and environmental injury, illness and disability of workers and their families; including individual patient care.
- OEM physicians champion the health and safety of **workers, workplaces, and environments**.
- OEM physicians also **manage the health of populations** with programs and services that protect the health and safety of workplaces and enhance worker productivity.
- Subspecialty of Preventive Medicine.
- Certified by the American Board of Preventive Medicine (ABPM).



## Occ and Env Hazard Examples

- Physical, chemical, biological, psychological, safety and ergonomic hazards
- Workplace Hep B/HIV exposure
- Asbestos in Libby, Montana, community
- Hexavalent chromium in water (Erin Brockovich)
- Popcorn workers' lung
- SARS Virus outbreak

## Where are Careers in OEM?

- Academia
- Corporate
- Hospital-based & private clinics
- Government; federal; military

## What are the Benefits of a Career in OEM?

- Intellectually challenging
- Impact populations and costs by preventing disease and injury
- Work in diverse practice settings
- Balance of clinical & admin work
- Practice cost-effective care
- Quality of Life
  - 9 AM - 5 PM with no call
  - \$180K-220K starting salary
  - Never boring
  - FT/PT positions available

## Residency Training in OEM

- Residents complete a two-year program that includes course work leading to a Master of Public Health (MPH) degree as well as practicum rotations at key clinical training sites in the region
- Residency programs are fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME)
- Residents are supported with stipend, benefits, MPH tuition and malpractice insurance (programs are funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health [NIOSH])
- Rotations include Medical Center occupational health clinics, employer-based clinics, federal & state regulatory agencies (OSHA; State Dept of the Health & Environment), labor unions, corporations; NIOSH; and the Veterans Administration.
- One year of internship is required prior to the OEM residency
- Applications accepted in the fall; Match day is December 15
- Combined IM/OM or FM/OM residencies can be arranged

## For More Information:

### ACOEM

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*Acroosteolysis in a  
Vinyl Chloride worker*

## Websites to Check Out:

- American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM): Careers in OEM ( <http://www.acoem.org> )
- Association of Occupational and Environmental Health Clinics ( <http://www.aoec.org/training.htm> )
  - Medical student internship opportunities
  - ACGME approved OEM Residencies
- NIOSH Science Blog ( <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/blog/index.html> )



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF  
OCCUPATIONAL AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE



**Founded in 1916, ACOEM is the largest organization of OEM physicians and other health professionals. ACOEM provides OEM professionals with education, career development, representation and other resources.**

- Discover the exciting possibilities of occupational and environmental medicine (OEM)!
- Network with physicians practicing in many OEM careers!
- Attend OEM meetings of the local ACOEM Component Society in your city!
- Participate in Special Interest Sections in 18 sub areas of OEM!
- Receive the online *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, the online weekly *Science in the News*, and other OEM resources—including courses and webinars!

**BECOME A MEMBER OF ACOEM!**  
Give yourself a head start in OEM! E-mail [memberinfo@acoem.org](mailto:memberinfo@acoem.org) or call 847-818-1800, ex. 300. Membership applications for students, residents and practicing physicians are on [www.acoem.org](http://www.acoem.org)

**Resident Membership: only \$45 for 2013!**

Open to full-time residents in **all** residency programs who have an interest in occupational and environmental medicine.

**Medical Student Membership: FREE.**

**Free** to full-time medical students with an interest in occupational and environmental medicine.

Medical Student and Resident members receive a **free subscription** to APG-I, the web based application of ACOEM's *Occupational Medicine Practice Guidelines: Evaluation and Management of Common Health Problems and Functional Recovery in Workers, Third Edition*. This is the gold standard in effective treatment of occupational injuries and illnesses for physicians and all those involved in worker health and workers' compensation systems.

**APG-I** provides a decision-support system that guides users step-by-step through ACOEM's evidence-based **Guidelines** with intuitive, user-friendly infrastructure and high-speed performance. A useful tool for occupational medicine! **Sign up for your free access!**

Search by recommendations - region, duration of injury, disorder, clinical measure and/or type of recommendation; CPT code, ICD 9, text, or key words. APG-I Plus contains the State-based guidelines for California and New York!