



International Federation of Physiotherapists working in Occupational Health and Ergonomics

IFPOHE Newsletter

28 July 2025

Dear Member Organisations and your members,

We bring you the IFPOHE 'World Physiotherapy Congress Tokyo' special Newsletter of July 2025, please share it with your own members.

IFPOHE activities and collaborations related to the World Physiotherapy Congress Tokyo 2025

At the World Physiotherapy Congress in Japan, Tokyo International Forum, there were several opportunities to meet up with colleagues:

IFPOHE Booth -was located in the Global and Academic village in the Exhibition Hall.

IFPOHE Booth was open each day of the Congress. We are grateful for the contribution of several of our members, either by representing IFPOHE at the booth, by bringing documents and items to the booth and your visits and inspiring conversations. Again, your presence was well appreciated and thank you very much for your assistance!

Clinical Seminar on Occupational Health Physiotherapy, Thursday 29th May

Gayline Manalang (the Philippines) chaired the seminar titled "Occupational health physiotherapy: promoting health at work, work injury prevention, and return to work". Rose Boucaut (Australia), Claudia Patricia Rojas Silva (Colombia) and Catherine Wambui Wambua (Kenya) illustrated how occupational health physiotherapy (OHP) practice plays out in different regions of World Physiotherapy, also by using case studies.

Specialty Group meeting with World Physiotherapy, Thursday 29th May





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On behalf of IFPOHE Yvonne van Zaanen, vice president and Vasiliki Sakellari, committee member attended this meeting. It was a worthy meeting, from the guidance that WP offers to specialty groups, as well as learning from knowledge and experiences of other specialty groups. Learnings were for example on organizing webinars and finance.

IFPOHE Business meeting – Thursday 29th May (this was a Member Only event)

Member organisation of IFPOHE were invited to present their national IFPOHE-related developments per region. We are proud to announce that many countries were happy to provide a slide which were presented by their own or a representative from their region. Attendees enjoyed sharing their experiences. A lack of interest in and a need to promote our specialty group among physiotherapists was broadly recognized.



The winner of the **Occupational health and ergonomics poster prize** was Douglas Gross from Canada with his poster “Evaluating Effectiveness of Telerehabilitation Services Among Injured Workers Treated in a Canadian Workers' Compensation System: A Population-Based Study”. Congratulations Doug!





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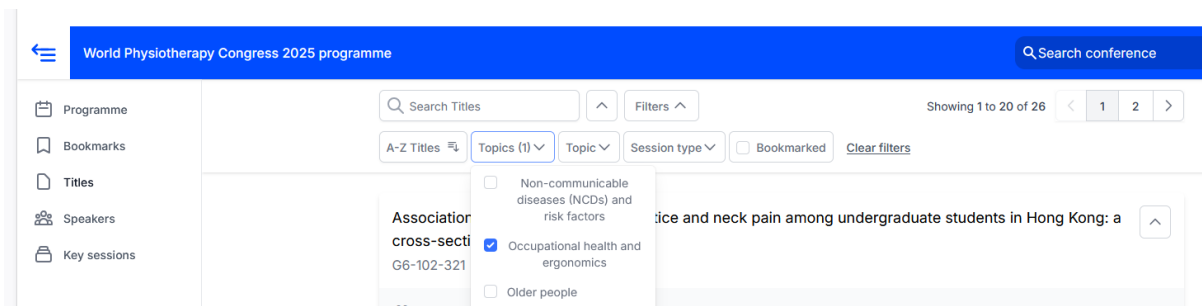
Networking session – Friday 30th May (open to all congress participants)

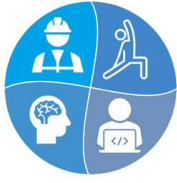


In this session attendees could choose their own topics. It is great to see that the number of attendees is rising over time. Favorite topics were Return to work, work injury prevention, psychosocial factors and mental health, global standards, tele-health and sharing resources between countries.

Poster and Oral Presentation sessions.

We are very proud that a **platform session** was held with regards to occupational health, thank you Gayline Manalang for taking the lead. Also **e-poster** and **printed poster** sessions included a wide variety on topics within the OHE field. You can find the link to the 26 abstracts presented at World Physiotherapy Congress here <https://wp2025.world.physio/programme/#> . In the titles section go to 'topics' and select Occupational health and ergonomics (see the screenshot below).





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Post congress activity June 1st

In collaboration with the Japanese Physical Therapy Association (JPTA), the Occupational Health and Ergonomics Section, a session was organized. This was well attended and there was a lot of interaction with the speakers from Japan, Australia, the Philippines, Greece, the Netherlands, Sweden and Chile.



We enjoyed meeting so many colleagues from our specialty group at the congress, please stay well connected in between these energizing World Physiotherapy Congresses and let us spread this energy and connection to those who were not able to attend.

With best wishes from the IFPOHE Executive Committee

Rose Boucaut (Australia, rose.boucaut@unisa.edu.au), Yvonne van Zaanen (The Netherlands, info@visiek.nl), Marisa Coetzee (South Africa, ifpohe.worldphysiotherapy@gmail.com), Vasiliki Sakellari (Greece), Beatriz Sanz-Bustillo (Spain), Tracey Atkinson (United Kingdom), Claudia Rojas Silva (Colombia), Rosimeire Simprini Padula (Brazil), Shane Meys (New Zealand).