

# REPORT ON FIELD VISIT TO IOCL, VADODARA

Date: 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2024

Time: 10:00 to 01:00 PM

Visit conducted by: Dr. Nikunj Kansara, Dr. Pranil Shah, Dr. Ashish Savani, Dr. Chirag Nandha, (PSM,PIMSR), PIPH staff and students.

On 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2024, PSM dept, PIMSR went on a field visit to Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Vadodara. The IOCL Gujarat refinery located near Vadodara, Gujarat, India has been in production since 1965. Owned and operated by India's state-run refining company Indian Oil Corporation, the refinery has a crude oil processing capacity of 13.7 million tons a year (Mtpa). Various theme-based preventive health programs are regularly being organized to protect the health of the 2070 employees and their dependents. The main three objectives of occupational health programs at IndianOil are: Maintenance and promotion of employees' health, Improvement of working environment and work to become conducive to safety and health of employees, and Development of healthy workplaces which supports health and safety at work and promotes positive social climate to enhance the productivity of the employees.



Occupational Health Center, IOCL, Vadodara



Gujarat Refinery Hospital, IOCL, Vadodara

induced hearing loss, chemical injuries due to H2S, Benzene and CO are most commonly observed health hazard here. Lifestyle diseases are just as much prevalent with 40% overweight employees.

Health services are divided in 2 components here: 1) Gujarat refinery Hospital: A 25 bedded well-equipped facility providing basic ailments, RMNCH, trauma, burns, emergency services and operation theatres. 2) Occupational Health Center (OHC): A separate building providing emergency health services, first-aid, screening and regular health checkups for employees. Employees working in high-risk area (i.e. construction, battery plant) are mandated to get health checkup every 3/6 months. Annual health checkups are conducted for all the employees. Noise

In case of any accident, employee is attended by 24\*7 running First Aid Centre and brought to the OHC. After stabilization, employee is shifted over to hospital for higher reference and care.



*Interaction with Occupation Health Physician*

Occupational Health Center (OHC) was a screening and health checkup facility with emergency care services. Pre-employment health checkups, quarterly/biannually/ annually health checkups and pre-retirement health checkups are conducted here under the guidance of Industrial Hygienist. Data is used to plan awareness programs and preventive strategies. Records are maintained for 15 years. Audiometry, Cardiography, Laboratory, TMT, Titmus vision test and spirometry are the major components of screening programs aimed to prevent occupational hazards. Monitoring and surveillance of Toxic gas detection, sound level, illumination, dust, ergonomics, mental health, fatigue, radiation hazards is done continuously by OHC team.

We met the Occupational Health Physician on duty Dr. Jitesh Patel (MBBS, CIH), who has been working in the OHC for more than 10 years. It was OPD time, so we went on observing the facility with the permission of General Manager Dr. Nagpure. Staff was welcoming, cooperative and work oriented. Hospital has all the medical and surgical specialties with well-maintained labour room and operation theatres. Daily footfall was expected around 200 in the hospital.



*Decontamination Shower at OHC*



*Session on occupational health at, IOCL, Vadodara*

Dr. Jitesh Patel took an informative session of 20 minutes explaining dynamics of an OHC. The flow of patient in case of an accident was explained by him thoroughly. Importance of Occupational health along with monitoring and surveillance activities were highlighted by him. His expertise in occupational health was apparent from the details of the session.

Upon interaction with beneficiaries, functioning of Hospital and OHC was appreciated by them. Emergency services, referral and normal deliveries were being done by junior doctors and nurses residing at the quarters. People seemed satisfied with the services provided via health programs, immunization services, awareness and educational activities, routine MCH and family

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planning services. Leaders of the industry were positively involved and in coordination with the health authorities for implementation of various guidelines.

Dr. Nagpure, MS of Gujarat refinery hospital and OHC, addressed us about the importance and scopes in occupational health in industrial set-up like IOCL. He was thrilled to answer all the queries and confusions from curious minds. After thank you note from faculty, visit was concluded.

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Place: Vadodara