

# Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) Annual Newsletter Winter-Spring 2022

## CME 2022: At the Intersection of Occupational and Environmental Health and Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

REGISTER ONLINE NOW! <https://virtualce.ucsf.edu/oem-update-2022>

The Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine is gearing up for its upcoming Continuing Medical Education (CME) course in March 2022. This educational event will take place in person with COVID-19 policies in place over two and a half days, beginning Thursday morning, March 10th and ending midday on Saturday, March 12th. There will also be a special in person poster abstract session on the evening of Wednesday March 9th, before the course lectures begin the next day.

The 2022 Occupational and Environmental Medicine CME course thematic focus for the first day of lecture presentations is: At the Intersection of Occupational and Environmental Health and Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

The presentations included under this theme include:

- Military Deployment as a Paradigm of Combined Occupational and Environmental Exposure
- Farmers, Foresters, and Seafarers: at the Crossroads of Environmental and Occupational Risks
- PTSD from Work and Environmental Events – Aiming for Secondary Prevention.
- Occupational Health and Safety and Environmental Health Policy from a Lobbyist's Experience
- Occupational and Environmental Health in Hawaii: Trouble in Paradise (Keynote)
- Occupational and Environmental Fieldwork: Experiential Learning For Trainees and Practitioners
- Diesel Exhaust as an Occupational vs. an Environmental Hazard: Different Lessons from the Same Teacher?
- Endocrine Disruptors: What Can Occupational Health Learn from the Environmental Arena?
- Closing Panel Discussion: Is There Truly an Intersection of Occupational and Environmental Health, Are We Acting that Way?

The Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine will include expert presentations on a wide range of topics:

- Home Office Ergonomics Post-COVID-19: Carpe Diem.
- Beyond COVID-19: Conserving the Environment to Prevent the Next Pandemic
- Performing Surveys in Occupational Health - Do's and Don'ts
- Total Worker Health in Traditional and Alternative Employment: Who Takes Responsibility for Workers' Well-Being?
- Why the Microbiome Might be Relevant in Occupational Health (Keynote)
- Air Pollution Indoors and Outdoors – Comparing Apples and Oranges?
- OEM Published Research: The Year in Review
- Pain Medicine for the Occupational Health Provider
- Workplace Risk Communication
- Occupational and Environmental Health Disparities – Lessons from COVID
- Closing Panel – Post-COVID Occupational and Environmental Health – Where do We Go from Here?

This course is designed to provide occupational and environmental health professionals and persons from other health-related disciplines with a review and update of current data in occupational and environmental medicine.

It is intended to meet the needs of primary care providers and others engaged in occupational health practice and research including physicians (family physicians, general practitioners, internists, and emergency medicine specialists), nurse practitioners and other nursing professionals, as well as physician's assistants, industrial hygienists, and health researchers and policy makers. We are approved for a maximum of 18.00 hours of CME AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™ for standard certification (including medicine, nursing, and physician assistant CME) as well a maximum of 18.00 LLSA Credits towards ABPM MOC Part II requirements in Occupational and Environmental Medicine. The course has also been approved for a maximum of 18 Qualified Medical Evaluators (QME) credits.



University of California  
San Francisco



Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
Department of Medicine - University of California, San Francisco

### At the Intersection of Occupational and Environmental Health and Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine

San Francisco Marriott Fisherman's Wharf  
San Francisco, CA

#### COURSE CHAIRS

**Paul D. Blanc, MD, MSPH**  
Professor of Medicine, Endowed Chair and Division Chief  
Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
University of California, San Francisco

**Robert Kosnik, MD, DH**  
Professor of Medicine, Medical Director, UCSF Occupational Health Services  
Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
University of California, San Francisco

**Samuel M. Goldman, MD, MPH**  
Professor of Clinical Medicine  
Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
University of California, San Francisco



ADDITIONAL EVENT WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9  
Evening Scientific Poster Session and Opening Reception – Call for Abstracts to Follow

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## University of California, San Francisco Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) Residency Program, founded in 1979, is an integrated 2-year program designed to prepare physicians for occupational and environmental medicine practice and leadership roles. Graduates of the UCSF OEM Program are subject-matter experts with visibility in clinical, academic, governmental, non-governmental (including military), consulting, and corporate settings. The program is fully accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for up to ten trainees.

Generally, first year residents earn a Master of Public Health from the University of California, Berkeley School of Public Health while also engaging in weekly clinical activities as well as clinical rotations at the beginning and end of the academic year. The second year of the program focuses on a combination of clinical and non-clinical experiential rotations as well as research activities.

A key program that distinguishes UCSF OEM is the industrial hygiene site visit month in August (in each of the two years) which includes visiting a wide range of industrial and environmental locations in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. In 2021, residents completed 13 high-quality site visits to include: Tesla's Gigafactory in Reno Nevada, a cooperage and winery in Napa, Clorox Industries, several factories that produce products such as industrial chemicals, stone manufacturing, pipe-organs, and radiators, Martinez Oil Refinery, The Port of Oakland, San Francisco International Airport, as well as Organic Girl's salad facility and a marijuana distribution center located in Salinas. The residents even had the opportunity to see the inner workings of Golden Gate Fields horse track, and see a spectacular live race complete with a medical emergency they responded to on the track! The residents observed and noted occupational and environmental hazards and the corresponding control measures and engaged in pre- and post-site briefings with faculty and other occupational specialists

The residents and faculty members of the UCSF OEM Program represent a highly diverse group, both culturally and professionally. All come from various backgrounds and are pursuing different areas of interest within OEM. Each person brings their own individual experiences to enhance the educational experience of the group as a whole. To learn more about the program please click on the link to our 2019 video presentation <https://youtu.be/Hqjp9Skb-es>.

### Residents Graduating in June 2022

**Shane Lavin, MD, MPH** obtained his medical degree from the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine before completing a surgical internship at the Navy Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia. His undergraduate training was at Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. He served as a flight surgeon in U.S. Navy from 2016 to 2020 before leaving the military. He obtained his master's in public health from the University of California Berkeley and is currently a second-year resident in the UCSF program. Shane has accepted a full-time position as staff physician at the Kaiser Permanente Occupational Medicine clinic in Petaluma, California, and will begin working there upon matriculation in June 2022.

**James McNicholas, DO, MPH, FACP** is a US Navy Veteran who served as the sole Naval Flight Surgeon at Diego Garcia, British Indian Ocean Territory before completing residency in internal medicine at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Following training, Dr. McNicholas served as Staff Internist at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola, FL where he was also a core faculty member of the Residency in Aerospace Medicine, receiving the Jay Phelan Faculty Instructor of the Year Award shortly before matriculating to UCSF. Dr. McNicholas received a National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Targeted Research Training in Occupational Health grant in 2021, and was recently awarded the M. Donald Whorton Writing award by the Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health at UC Berkeley. Dr. McNicholas will be taking on the UCSF leadership role of Director of the Occupational Health Service at the Zuckerberg General Hospital starting July 1, 2022.

**Brittany Ballen, DO, MPH** obtained her medical degree from Rocky Vista University College of Osteopathic Medicine (Parker, Colorado) and completed a surgical internship at UC Davis. Her undergraduate training was at the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. She currently holds the rank of Major in the U.S. Air Force and is on active duty and will return the Air Force upon program completion.

**Stefano Leitner, MD, MPH** earned his medical degree from the Florida State University College of Medicine. He completed a year of Internal Medicine internship at the George Washington University Hospital in Washington, DC prior to joining UCSF. He is interested in leveraging digital health tools for the prevention and management of occupational diseases. Consistent with that focus. He will pursue Clinical Informatics fellowship training at UCSF following completion of his occupational and environmental medicine training.



Top to Bottom:

1. Three UCSF Residents posing at the finish line with the winner of the horse race at Golden Gate Fields
2. During a site visit with a small organ manufacturing operation, residents observe a demonstration of a hand-made wooden pipe organ.
3. A worker finishing an oak barrel at a facility in the California Wine Country; residents observed occupations at every level of wine production.
4. Residents posing in front of a model of Tesla's Gigafactory, a highly automatic production facility where Tesla produces its large battery packs and electric motors.

**Ji Young Nam, MD, MPH** holds a medical degree from Gachon University of Medicine and Science (Incheon, South Korea) and received her MPH from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She completed an Internal Medicine residency and Geriatric Medicine fellowship at Beth Israel Medical Center in NYC (Board certified in both). She worked as a hospitalist at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital in Philadelphia for two years, followed by three years at Swedish Medical Center in Seattle. She is interested in pursuing a career in the area related with workers' compensation system.

## Current First Year Residents

**Aaron Hicks, DO** holds a medical degree from Western U - College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific and completed a transitional year internship at Naval Medical Center San Diego. He is an active-duty flight surgeon in the US Navy and most recently served on the US Navy Blue Angels during their 2019 and 2020 show seasons. He previously served with Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN, deploying aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt in 2017. After completing training at UCSF, Dr. Hicks will continue active service in the US Navy.

**Anthony Lopez, DO** Dr. Lopez joined the UCSF OEM Residency after completion of his Navy service in summer 2021. He spent most of his active-duty service with a US Marine infantry battalion and squadron in Hawaii and California respectively. After his undergraduate training at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA, he graduated from Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in 2016. He then completed a general surgery internship at Naval Medical Center San Diego becoming the 3rd generation of family choosing to serve in the US Military. He is a current 1st year resident in Occupational and Environmental Medicine with career interests in clinical occupational medicine.

**Ignacio Santana, MD** Dr. Ignacio "Nacho" Santana holds a BA and MD from Brown University in Providence, RI. Having grown up near Fresno, he returned to California to complete his internship at Kern Medical in Bakersfield and subsequently continued residency in OEM in San Francisco. He is currently conducting research evaluating the effect of air pollution on the health of children living in the Central Valley of California.

**Isaac Vargas, DO** Isaac Vargas, DO received his BA from the University of Texas at Austin and earned his medical degree from the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in Philadelphia, PA. He completed a Family Medicine residency in Belle Glade, FL and is Board certified in Family Medicine. Dr. Vargas has practiced as a clinician in primary care, urgent care and preceptor for a family medicine residency program in Georgia. Prior to coming to UCSF he has been working in COVID-19 field hospitals across the United States and has a special interest in workplace policies and interventions that impact employee health.

## Incoming July 2022 OEM Residents

**Max Blumberg MD,** Dr. Max Blumberg MD graduated with a B.Sc. in Physiology from McGill University (Montreal) followed by M.D. from SUNY Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine. He completed an Internal Medicine internship (PGY1) year and one year of ophthalmology residency at Albany Medical College in Albany, NY. He is currently working in Buffalo NY for the Erie County Department of Health managing COVID-19 vaccination efforts.

**Shamil Jugnudan, MD** Dr. Shamil Jugnudan MD as born in Durban, South Africa and immigrated to Canada with his family at age 8. He attended medical school at the Medical University of Americas in St.Kitts/Nevis, with the majority of his clinical rotations in NYC at Wyckoff Hospital (Brooklyn), where he is completing his Internal Medicine residency. Wyckoff is a community hospital that has been on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic since 2020. Having a father who practices occupational medicine in Canada, Dr. Jugnudan has been exposed to the field of OEM from an early age.

**Margaret Murray, MD** Dr. Margaret Murray MD is from Durham, North Carolina and obtained her undergraduate degree from Duke University. She went to medical school at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center and then completed a Master's of Global Health at Duke. She is currently residing in Norfolk, Virginia where she is finishing her Family Medicine residency at Eastern Virginia Medical Center.

**Michael Zhang, MD** Dr. Michael Zhang MD is currently completing his residency in Preventive Medicine at the Southern Nevada Health District in Las Vegas including an MPH from the University of Nevada Las Vegas. He is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and has also completed one year of Internal Medicine at Houston Methodist Hospital in Texas. He also completed dental school and holds a DMD from Nova Southeastern University in Florida.



Top to bottom:

5. Surrounded by barrels of wine, residents pose for a group photo during their trip to California's Wine Country.
6. After their airshow over San Francisco, the Blue Angels pilots posed with residents in front of one of their F/A-18 Super Hornets.
7. After touring a tool manufacturing facility, residents pose for a photo.
8. The hand-crafted robotic mascot of JB Radiator poses with the residents after a site visit reviewing the occupational hazards of radiator production.

## The California Labor Laboratory Our New Total Work Health Center

A collaborative of UCSF and UC Berkeley researchers, led by Dr. Edward Yelin, has recently been awarded a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Total Worker Health Center of Excellence. UCSF Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine faculty are key collaborators in the new initiative.

The Total Worker Health program seeks to expand the focus of occupational health beyond individual toxic or ergonomic exposures to encompass the totality of work, including how work is organized, how such aspects as scheduling affect the worker's health, and how it affects families through the demands placed on the worker and the effects of low wages on food, housing, and medical care security.

The UCSF/UCBerkeley Total Worker Health Center, the California Labor Laboratory, adds a unique dimension to the TWH Centers program by focusing on the health impacts of emergent working conditions.

These conditions span how workers are hired to do work, sometimes referred to as "alternative work arrangements encompassing task-based employment ("gig jobs"), project-based work, and various forms of contract employment"; the impermanence of jobs, so-called "contingent employment"; and the erosion of the working conditions that afforded workers basic protections, including decent wages and benefits, workers' compensation, and a voice at the workplace.

Alone among the NIOSH-funded TWH Centers, the California Labor Laboratory (CALL) is housed in and emphasizes the working conditions within the State of California, one of the most diverse states in terms of the demographic characteristics of its residents and the mix of its industries. California is also thought to be at the forefront of emergent working conditions due to the use of alternative work arrangements in both longstanding industries such as agriculture and entertainment and newer ones such as software and biotech.

CALL has a short-term goal of understanding the nature of working conditions through its research program and beginning the process of mitigating the health impacts of those conditions through its extensive outreach program.

Longer-term goals are to foster a community of investigators who will devote their careers to understanding the health impacts of how work is organized and a community of change agents who will seek to mitigate those impacts through education and interventions at individual workplaces and development of public policies to ablate the adverse health effects of emergent working conditions.

To further the goal of fostering the community of researchers, CALL is sponsoring a pilot grants program; to further the goal of fostering a community of change agents, CALL is developing a certificate program in Total Worker Health which will use some existing courses on the UCSF and UCB campuses and develop others that are specific to CALL's mission.

Research projects within CALL span a general look at the prevalence and impact of emerging working conditions in a random sample of the working age population of the State followed for three years through longitudinal administration of structured survey, a deep dive into low wage service industry employment through an innovative sampling technique using social media; and an intensive study of a largely immigrant industry, stone fabrication.

The Principal Investigator for CALL is Edward Yelin, the Edward A Dickson Emeritus Professor of Medicine and Health Policy. Dr. Yelin has had a long affiliation with the Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM). Several other OEM faculty play important roles in CALL, including Dr. Carisa Harris Adamson, the Associate Director for Research, Dr. Robert Harrison, the Co-Principal Investigator in the Stone Fabrication Industry project, Dr. Paul Blanc, a member of the CALL Evaluation and Planning Core, and Dr. Amy Heinzerling, a Co-investigator in the Stone Fabrication project. Other UCSF academic units involved in CALL include the Philip R Lee Institute for Health Policy Studies, the home unit for CALL; Social and Behavioral Sciences in the School of Nursing; Preventive Dentistry in the School of Dentistry; and Division of Rheumatology. At UC, Berkeley, key faculty include Dr. Cristina Banks, the Director of the Interdisciplinary Center for Healthy Workplaces who serves as the Associate Director for Outreach of CALL; Ms. Laura Stock, the Director of the Labor Occupational Health Program who serves as Director of Community Engagement, and Mr. Ken Jacobs and Dr. Nari Rhee of the Institute for Research on Labor and Employment's Labor Center.



*Dr. Edward Yelin  
Professor Emeritus  
Institute for Health Policy Studies*

## Occupational and Environmental Medicine Core Faculty Updates

This past year, our core OEM Faculty has had much to update. Below are just a few of the highlights:

**Mehrdad Arjomandi** has three active research awards from the Department of Defense, California TRDRP, and the Flight Attendant Medical Research Institute. His 2020 VA COVID-19 Rapid Response award set the stage for a collaboration with the VA Million Veterans Program and the VA Phenomics Library, which has resulted in generation of four scientific manuscripts (one in press and three under review). Mehrdad continues in his role as the Director of San Francisco VA site of the Airborne Hazard and Burn Pit Study Center of Excellence Post-Deployment Cardiopulmonary Evaluation Network (PDCEN). Mehrdad continues his clinical activities in the Pulmonary and Critical Care Division and Environmental Medicine Clinic at the SFVA, and serves as a member on the UCSF Faculty Senate Committee on Research.

**John Balmes** now Emeritus, officially retired January 1, 2021. He also retired as Director of the Northern Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH) and PI of the NIOSH-funded Northern CA Education and Research Center on July 1, 2021, but will continue as investigator on selected research projects. He was reappointed by CA Governor Newsom and confirmed by the State Senate in Spring 2021 to continue his position as the Physician Member of the California Air Resources Board for another 5-year term. He also was appointed to the U.S. EPA Clean Air Science Advisory Committee Particulate Matter Review Panel.

**Paul Blanc** has two active research award from the Alpha Foundation one to study rheumatologic disease in hardrock miners and the other in coal miners. He continues to serve as Program Director for the OEM residency, with support from a competitive renewal of NIOSH funding awarded in June, 2020 along with ongoing support from the Health Resource Services Administration (HRSA). This past year he became Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Occupational Medicine and Toxicology.

**Sam Goldman** received a new research award from the Michael J. Fox Foundation to study associations of military service-related exposures and Parkinson's disease in the prospective DoD Millenium Cohort. This grant supplements ongoing epidemiologic and genetic neurodegenerative disease research funded by the DoD, the NIA, and a VA Merit award. He continues to co-chair the annual UCSF OEM CME course and oversee OEH Interdisciplinary Grand Rounds.

**Sandeep Guntur** was appointed in late 2020 to a newly-created position of Director of Employee Health at the SF VA in recognition of the growing demands of workplace COVID-19 management. Those COVID-related demands are ongoing, and he also continues to supervise UCSF OEM residents during their VA rotations. This has lead to several journal publications as an outgrowth of quality improvement efforts.

**Carisa Harris-Adamson** was designated Director of the Northern California COEH and Associate Director of Research for a newly funded Total Worker Health Program called the California Lab. This past year, Dr. Harris Adamson also received a training grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences and a large state funded grant to investigate the impact of COVID-19 on the work pace, physical and mental health of Janitors. She remains Director of our Human Factors & Ergonomics Program.

**Robert Harrison** continues to receive special support from NIOSH to carry out COVID-related occupational health work, in addition to his California Department of Public Health activities. His efforts have included special engagement with COVID-19 related employee health consultation to the California prison system. Dr. Harrison leads our occupational medicine faculty practice at Mt Zion and continues as the OEM Residency Associate Program Director.

**Amy Heinzerling** continues her work at the California Department of Public Health, where she oversees California's COVID-19 workplace outbreak data collection, and is helping to implement projects focusing on silicosis among artificial stone fabrication workers as part of the California Labor Laboratory, a new NIOSH Center of Excellence for Total Worker Health. She also continues in her role as part-time faculty in the SF VA OEM clinic.

**Stephanie Holm** continues to co-direct the Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit and continues a part time position at the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment in the California EPA. In both of those roles, she has been highly involved in guidance on public health responses to wildfire smoke, including serving on a National Academies Committee about Respirator Use by the General Public. She also in actively involved in research, looking at the health effects of air pollution on children

**Robert Kosnik** is a senior leader in UCSF Occupational Health COVID Response team centered policy and practice, including clinical lead for Employee Vaccination Operations. The past two years have been incredibly demanding in that regard and he has been broadly recognized by UCSF for his contributions. He also continues to co-chair the annual UCSF OEM CME course which will take place in March 2022.

**Zaw Maung** in addition to his appointment at UCSF Occupational Health Services, took on the role of Acting Associate Medical Director at Zuckerberg San Francisco Occupational Health Services, co-leading the COVID-19 response and overseeing ZSFG OHS clinical services including the medical surveillance programs for City and County of San Francisco employees. The past year, his team at ZSFG has published findings of delayed injection site skin reaction to the Moderna vaccine based on their observations following widespread vaccination of ZSFG health care workers. He also has a manuscript under review detailing findings of lack of utility of temperature screening in detecting COVID-19 amongst healthcare workers at ZSFG.

**Mark Miller** continues to co-direct the Western States Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit and led the Children's Environmental Health Center within California EPA. This past year the PEHSU has published new educational materials on safer approaches to cleaning and disinfecting during the COVID pandemic and has also focused on wildfire smoke, both the health effects and public health responses. At the California EPA, he led the development of a risk assessment requested by the state legislature titled "Health Effects Assessment: Potential Neurobehavioral Effects of Synthetic Food Dyes in Children," released in 2021.

**Suzaynn Schick** continues her work in the Human Exposure Laboratory (for which she is Associate Director) focusing on both secondhand and "thirdhand" cigarette smoke exposure (the latter from delayed exposure from contaminated indoor materials). She is completing a pilot study of exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke in public places in the Bay Area. She has major research support from the California Tobacco-Related Research Program.

*The Center of Occupational & Environmental Health (COEH) promotes healthy workplaces and environments that protect workers and communities from occupational and environmental health hazards through teaching, research, and service. The COEH includes the Education and Research Center (ERC) funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).*

*The Labor Occupational Health Program (LOHP) at UC Berkeley is the public service program of the COEH and the ERC with the goal of preventing illness and injury in the workplace and raising awareness of the social and economic costs of hazardous workplace conditions for individuals, communities, businesses, and the environment. The OEM residency, also funded in part through the ERC, includes an elective rotation option with LOHP. Combined with COEH's continuing education program, we offer a broad range of accredited courses for practicing health and safety professionals. Visit <http://coeh.berkeley.edu> for a complete list of continuing education opportunities.*

For the last two years, COEH has been deeply engaged in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Faculty, staff, residents, and students have responded quickly, proactively, and in a sustained manner to the needs of our community. COEH educational activities have been fully online since March 2020 and will continue to be online until changes in conditions warrant a return to in-person events. COEH has engaged in COVID-19 related work including activities focused on vulnerable and at-risk populations such as:

- Those incarcerated and working in incarceration facilities
- Grocery workers
- Meat processing plant workers
- Teachers
- Elementary-age pupils
- Healthcare workers

In the Fall of 2021 following Dr. John Balmes' retirement, Dr. Carisa Harris-Adamson assumed the role of Director of the COEH. She and her team are leading COEH. Also, this past Fall, the COEH welcomed a new partner, also funded by NIOSH, The California Labor Laboratory Total Work Health Center (see profile of Ed Yelin and this project elsewhere in this newsletter). To find out more about upcoming webinars, skills workshops, continuing education courses, upcoming events, and the recent accomplishments of COEH students and faculty, please visit:

<https://coeh.berkeley.edu>



Left to Right:

1. The California Legislature passes a bill mandating that the California Department of Industrial Relations, under the leadership of Director Don Vial, establish Occupational Health Centers in Northern and Southern California under contract with the University of California. UCB Professor Robert Spear is founding director of the Northern Center, which links Berkeley, San Francisco, and Davis.
2. Dr. John Balmes meets with Governor Jerry Brown at a past COEH gathering celebrating the anniversary of its founding.

## Occupational and Environmental Medicine (OEM) Mount Zion Clinic Update

The UCSF OEM Clinic continues to be rooted in a faculty practice which has been operating for over 30 years. Our team of experts includes Board Certified physicians in occupational and environmental medicine, medical toxicology, occupational health nursing, physical therapy and industrial hygiene.

The clinic provides specialty consultation to individuals and groups of workers who have had exposures to biological, chemical, and physical agents at the workplace or in the home environment.

The OEM clinic provides leadership internally to the UCSF Health adult hospitals, the UCSF Benioff Children's Hospitals, and the ambulatory UCSF Faculty Practice Organization in the design and execution of programs for health care workers for immunization review when starting work, large scale programs such as immunization for COVID-19 and influenza, tuberculosis surveillance, and medical clearance to wear a respirator, and for groups of workers with special assignments with highly infectious agents.

The OEM clinic has developed protocols for prevention of ergonomic injuries to the upper extremity and for a robust training intervention post injury. The OEM medical team provides immediate access to care for health care workers when they have an exposure to blood borne pathogens, and for researchers when they have exposures from laboratory materials or research animals.

The OEM clinic's work for UCSF Health has been extended to biosafety issues in the UCSF research community. It provides immunization for infectious agents in research, monitors workers at a medical risk, and responds to exposures when they occur.

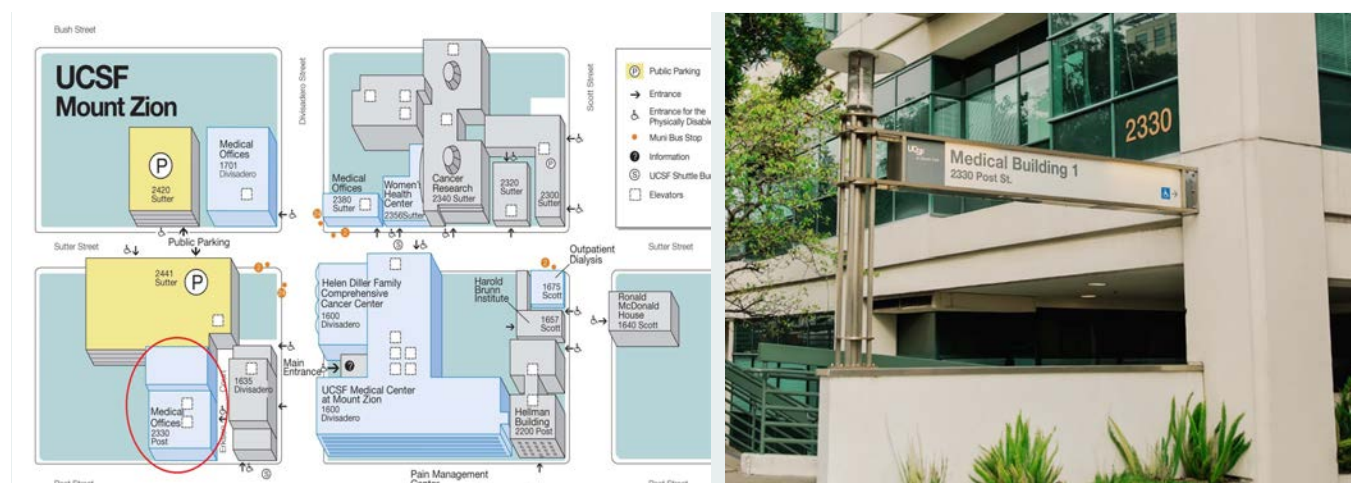
These services have been extended to affiliated researchers and to external groups.

The OEM clinic evaluates individuals following chemical exposure at the workplace or at home including a baseline assessment with recommendations for follow up medical surveillance.

It performs repeat assessments on groups of workers providing consistency in medical surveillance over time. As an example, the OEM clinic provides the Department of Transportation examinations to individuals and groups of workers.

The OEM clinic develops specific medical surveillance and assessment programs customized for hazards in a group of workers. It designed a fitness for duty surveillance program for the San Francisco marine pilots who climb on board all large ships entering the Bay, and then navigate the ship into the Bay until it is safely alongside its berth.

The program is comprised of a medical surveillance assessment, which includes an agility test, toxicology screening for over the counter and prescription medications, and comprehensive medical examinations focused on the physical demands of their work as marine pilots and identification of previously unrecognized obstructive sleep apnea.



The clinic is conveniently located within the UCSF Mount Zion campus just north of Geary and west of Divisadero at 2330 Post Street, Suite 460. The clinic can be reached by telephone at 415.885.7580. Referrals are accepted from physicians, other licensed medical practitioners, attorneys, and selected self-referrals from individuals.

For a link to the clinic go to: <https://oem.ucsf.edu/patient-care>

## ABOUT OEM

The Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, separately constituted at the UCSF Parnassus, Mount Zion, Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, and San Francisco Veterans Affairs Health Care System campuses, is closely interlinked. It has achieved national and international recognition as a center for research, training, and clinical care in its field. The mission of the Division of Occupational & Environmental Medicine at UCSF is to advance the field of occupational and environmental health through research, education, and service to patients and the community.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

*Thursday—Saturday, March 10th- 12th, 2022:*

CME 2022: At the Intersection of Occupational and Environmental Health and Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine including a virtual poster abstract session Wednesday evening, March 9th.

*Course Chairs:*

Paul D. Blanc, MD, MSPH;  
Samuel M. Goldman, MD, MPH;  
Robert Kosnik, MD, DIH;

To register:

<https://virtualce.ucsf.edu/oem-update-2022>

*Noon, Thursday May 12, 2022:*

2022 Annual Alice Hamilton Lecture  
UCSF Medical Grand Rounds  
On military exposure from the occupational perspectives

Eric Garshick, MD, MOH

Associate Chief, Pulmonary, Allergy, Sleep, and Critical Care Medicine Section,  
VA Boston Healthcare System



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We salute OEM's achievements in advancing the field of occupational and environmental health.

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