

## Call for scholarly networking between occupational and public health stakeholders to address the COVID-19 pandemic and new global health challenges in the post-COVID-19 era: The case of scientific collaboration between *SIPISS*, *AIPMEL* and the *Summer School on Total Worker Health*

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On the evening of 16 March 2021, the *Journal of Health and Social Sciences* (JHSS) was accepted for inclusion in Scopus. At that time, the scientific editor and co-editor-in-chief of the JHSS claimed that the most exciting part of their “scientific” journey was “still to come” and called for “cooperation with highly passionate, enthusiastic, competent contributing researchers” who, through their tireless work, may sustain our journal [1]. Today, it is a great honour for all of us to announce that a new collaboration has been established between the *Italian Society of Integrative Psychotherapy for Social Development* (SIPISS), the *Italian Association of Psychology and Occupational Health* (AIPMEL) and the *Italian Summer School on Total Worker Health*. The SIPISS, whose scientific journal is the JHSS, is an association whose mottos are “science in society and science for society” and “the art of medicine as love for huma-

nity” [2, 3]. The AIPMEL is the first Italian association of psychologists and occupational health practitioners. The *Giornale Italiano di Psicologia e Medicina del Lavoro* is a new, interdisciplinary, open-access journal that has been launched for this innovative cooperation between psychologists and occupational physicians [4].

The third edition of the *Summer School on Total Worker Health* was held from 27<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 in Apulia Region, Italy and was promoted by the Occupational Medicine Service of the Bambino Gesù Children's Hospital with the sponsorship of the *European Network for Workplace Health Promotion* and the *Italian Society of Occupational Medicine*. This event was established for training young practitioners and producing scholarly research on the best practices of “total worker health”. This is an approach that recognizes the multiple pathways within the workplace that

KEY WORDS: COVID-19; occupational health; global health; public health; total worker health.

impact worker safety, health and well-being, consistent with the approach of the Total Worker Health (TWH) programmes of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health [5].

The TWH programmes were carried out by scholars of the Summer School with activities relating to disability management, workplace health promotion, personalized prevention and worker well-being.

In this issue of the JHSS, we present several studies designed in the context of the Summer School that focus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the workplace [6, 7]. During the pandemic, the integrative TWH framework has been found to be effective for worker's safety, health and well-being [8–10].

We believe this new partnership between the occupational physicians, psychologists and public health scholars of these associations, as well as networking among occupational and public health stakeholders in general, may be decisive in addressing the COVID-19 crisis, which is a global emergency that requires a

global response. We also believe that a coordinated response is needed to tackle some of the major issues of the post-COVID-19 era: the pandemic's socio-economic and psychological consequences and the emerging global health challenges related to the climate crisis, including air pollution, future epidemics, global warming and extreme weather, that may affect the health of workers and the rest of the population [11–13]. Finally, cooperation in the workplace through the TWH may help us to reach the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals more quickly.

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**Competing interests** - none declared.

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**Cite this article as:** Chirico F, Zaffina S, Ferrari G. Call for scholarly networking between occupational and public health stakeholders to address the COVID-19 pandemic and new global health challenges in the post-COVID-19 era: The case of scientific collaboration between SIPISS, AIPMEL and the Summer School on Total Worker Health. *J Health Soc Sci.* 2021;6(3):309-312

DOI 10.19204/2021/cllf1

Received: 20/09/21

Accepted: 30/09/21

Published: 30/09/21

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