

# Medical surveillance of hairdressers

*The approach and experience in Belgium*

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# Mensura in numbers



**520,000**

medical exams  
each year



**50,000+**  
customers

**102** centres across Belgium



**597** employees



**146** prevention advisors



**289** physicians and  
paramedics

# Content

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# Legislation

- **Law on Well-being at Work (4 August 1996)**

One codex including:

- Dynamic Risk Management
- Biological Agents
- Chemical Agents
- Occupational Health Surveillance

- **Federal Agency for Occupational Risks**

codes:

- 1.202:** Skin disorders in the work environment caused by substances not included in other items
- 1.305.06.01:** Asthma as a result of specific hypersensitivity caused by substances not included in other headings
- 1.606.22:** Conditions affecting the tendons, the tendinous sheaths and the muscular and tendinous insertions of the upper limbs due to excessive strain of these structures by movements of a repetitive nature requiring strength, or by unfavourable positions



**FEDRIS**  
FEDERAAL AGENTSCHAP VOOR BEROEPSRISICO'S

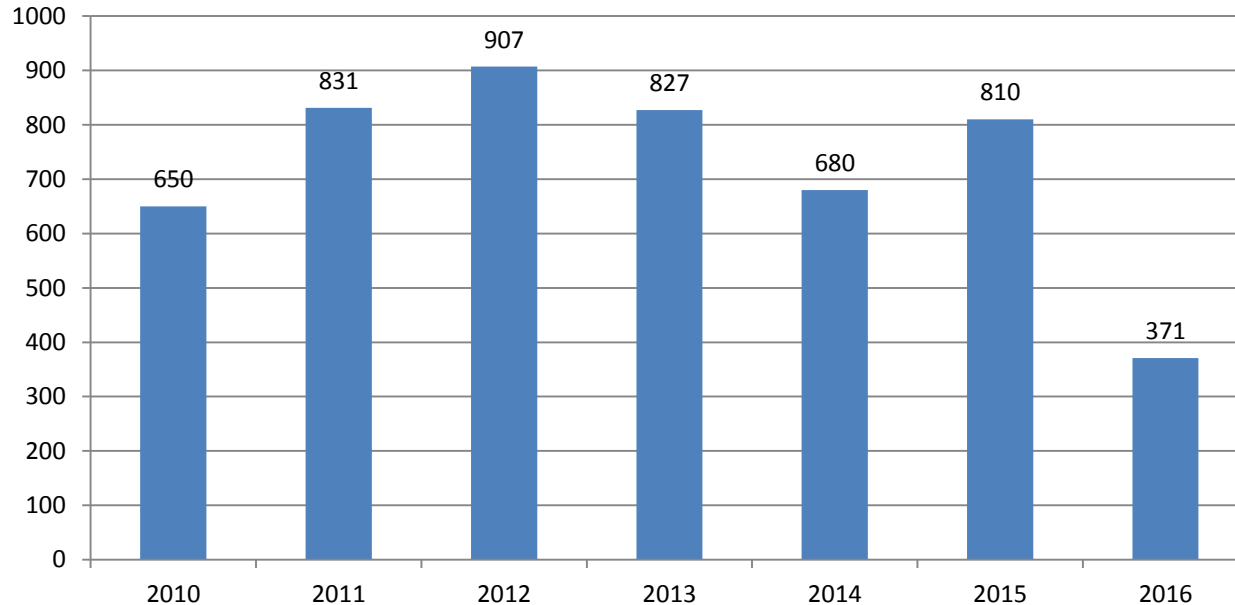
# Medical surveillance – in function of risk analysis

## Hairdresser

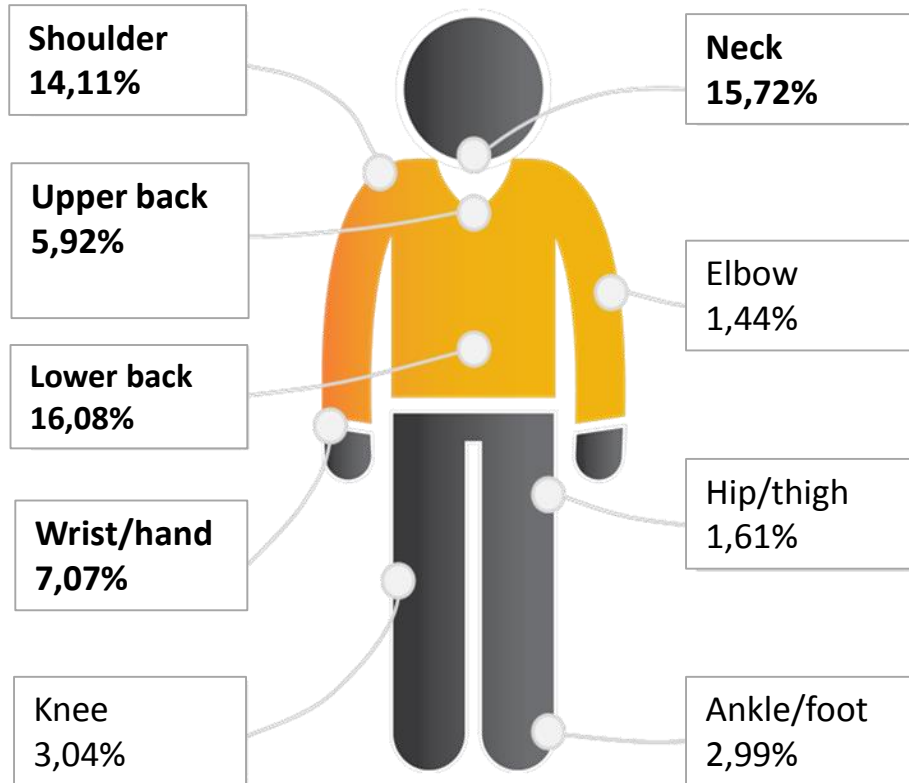
Risk code	Description	Medical Exam
03.04.03.00	Ergonomic strain	Questionnaire locomotor complaints
03.04.03.03	Static load	Questionnaire locomotor complaints
03.04.03.01	Repetitive movements	Questionnaire locomotor complaints
03.01.00.00	Chemical agents	In function of the product
03.01.30.00	Soaps – detergents – surfactants: anionic, cationic and nonionic	Examination of the skin
03.01.33.10	Hair and hair fragments	Lung function test
03.02.01.00	Noise	Audiometry

# Figures: General

- 3029 hairdressers affiliated with Mensura (2756 employers)
- Number of periodic medical examinations 2010-2016

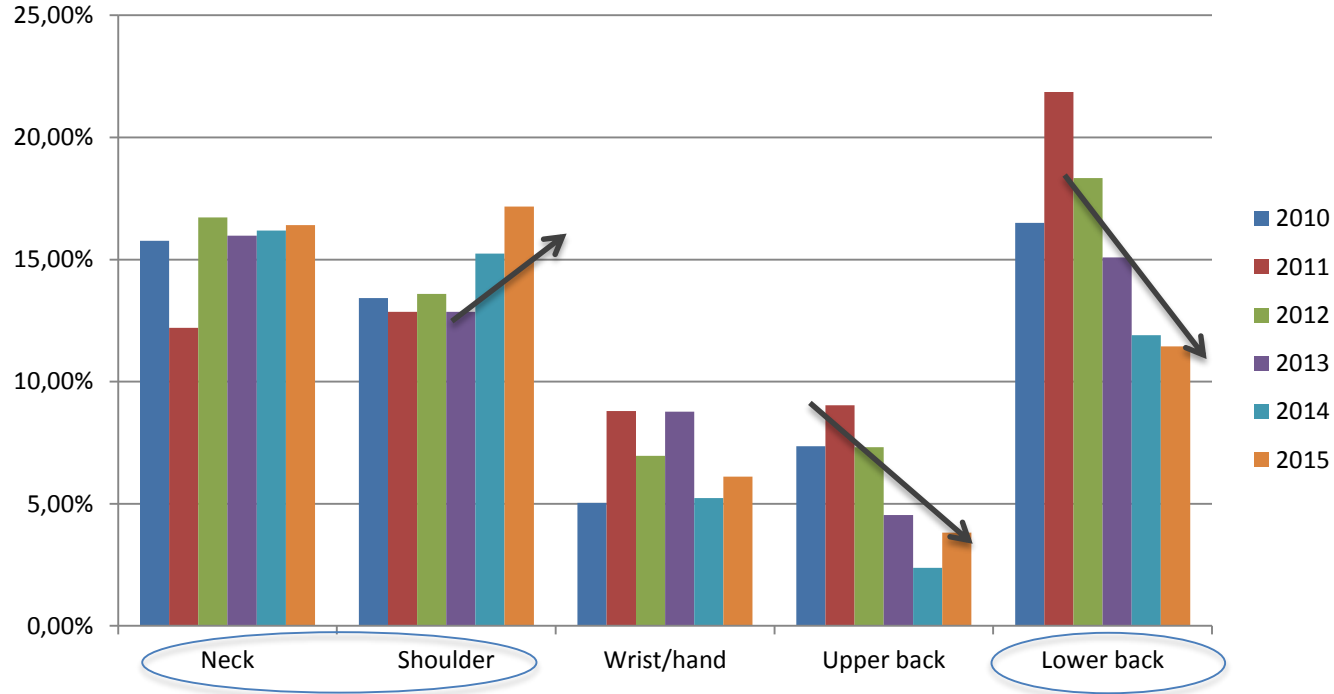


# Figures: Locomotor complaints 2010-2016



# Figures: Locomotor complaints 2010-2015

## Evolution % locomotor complaints 2010-2015





# Figures: Conclusions medical examinations

- **Periodic medical examinations 2010-2016:**
  - 4896 declared fit
  - 22 declared unfit: 19 temporary and 3 permanent
- **Medical examinations at work resume 2010-2016 (n=28):**
  - 16 declared fit
  - 9 declared unfit: 8 temporary and 1 permanent
  - 3 missing values



# Figures: Occupational diseases Belgium

Fund for Occupational Diseases 2016:

- **1.202**: Skin disorders in the work environment caused by substances not included in other items  
**n=289**
- **1.305.06.01**: Asthma as a result of specific hypersensitivity caused by substances not included in other headings  
**n=8**
- **1.606.22**: Conditions affecting the tendons, the tendinous sheaths and the muscular and tendinous insertions of the upper limbs due to excessive strain of these structures by movements of a repetitive nature requiring strength, or by unfavourable positions  
**n=1.043**

# Figures: Declarations occupational diseases

Mensura declarations of occupational diseases of hairdressers to the Fund for Occupational Diseases (2012-2016):

- 1.606.22 (tendons): 1
- 1.701 (latex allergy): 1
- 1.305.06.01 (asthma): 4
- 1.202 (skin disorders): 12

# Conclusions

- Lower back pain, shoulder and neck pain, and wrist/hand pain are frequently reported among hairdressers
- Decrease in lower and upper back complaints – increase in shoulder complaints
- Small number of medical examinations at work resume ( $\geq 1$  month on sick leave)
- High recovery rate

# Thank you for your attention!

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