

AUSTRALASIAN FACULTY OF OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE

HUNTER REGIONAL COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF AFOM TRAINEE MEETING

DATE: Thursday, 20 March, 2003

**VENUE: NEWCASTLE HSA OFFICE
13 Darby Street, Newcastle. 2300**

TIME: 4.30pm - 5.45pm

PRESENTER: Dr. Sandra McBurnie

TOPIC: *You are an occupational physician for a company that makes metal tubing. The union has told the management that the men have heard about a number of past employees have cancer. It appears to them to be an abnormal cluster and they want it investigated.*

The tubing is made from either sheet steel, galvanised steel or aluminium. Coils of sheet steel are uncoiled and welded to the end of the previous roll. The steel passes through a series of dies and is electrically welded using a magnetic field and filler metal. A compound containing mineral oils is used as a coolant and lubricant. How would you approach this problem?

Are their concerns about an occupationally acquired cancer plausible? The union wants medical examination.

What would you do? Would you do any workplace assessment?