



Icahn
School of
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**Mount
Sinai**

OCCUPATIONAL

HealthWATCH

Division of Occupational & Environmental Medicine



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Message from the Director

Jobs are undergoing profound changes, with the transformative effects of new technologies, changing demographics, and climate change, all of which are leading to new challenges for worker health and safety. Changes in the labor market include a shift from permanent, full-time jobs to temporary agency and part-time work, self-employment, and other non-standard forms of work. The fragmentation of our workforce leads to insufficient or non-existing safety training, a lack of preventive intervention, and workers' compensation coverage when injuries or illnesses do occur. Stressors and psychosocial risks at work and the onset of non-communicable diseases resulting from lifestyle changes and coping habits are also on the rise. The introduction of robotics and new technologies creates new opportunities but also challenges in terms of potential impacts on physical and mental health.

It is important for governments, employers and unions, and other stakeholders to seize opportunities to create a safe and healthy future for all workers. This May, our Division of Occupational Medicine will join a meeting at the United Nations with the International Commission on Occupational Health, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and others to participate in a discussion on the future of work. It is critical that health and safety is a priority in the #FutureOfWork discussions happening globally as well as in our own communities. Those discussions will set the stage for the Annual [New York-New Jersey ERC](#) meeting to be held at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai on September 20th. Please hold the date!

To learn more about the [#FutureOfWork](#), read the January 2019 [report](#) released by the International Labour Organization's [Global Commission on the Future of Work](#).

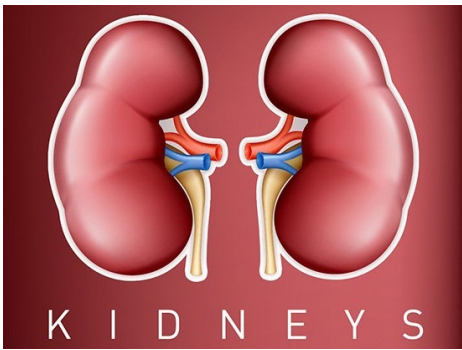
New videos on how to access care for workplace injuries



Video #1: About the Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health



Video #2: Medical Treatment Under New York State Workers' Compensation



Research Corner

March is National Kidney Month! Kidneys are important because they filter your blood, control blood pressure, and create and balance the right chemicals and minerals in your body.

In recent research by Roberto Lucchini, MD, some populations of workers in Central America and parts of Asia who spend most of their day outdoors have been seen with increased rates of chronic kidney failure. This is believed to be due to increases in temperature. "This can be considered the first disease that's related to climate change," says Dr. Lucchini. [Read more.](#)



Educating Providers on the Impact of Climate Change

Climate change is taking a toll not just on the environment, but also in the clinic, with a rise in asthma, cardiovascular disease, insect-borne viruses, and heat-related death. That was the urgent message of the inaugural [Clinical Climate Change conference](#), hosted by

[Mount Sinai's Institute for Exposomic Research](#). Panelists at the event, held on Saturday, January 12, at the New York Academy of Medicine, included environmental advocates and leaders in the study of environmental medicine and public health. [Read more.](#)

New York After 9/11

[New York After 9/11](#) is a new book edited by Susan Opatow and Zachary Baron Shemtob that offers insights into how 9/11 impacted the New York City community in the years that followed, bringing together experts from medicine, public safety, and law among others to contribute to chapters on health, revitalization and policy. Roberto Lucchini, MD, and Michael Crane, MD, MPH, were contributing authors. The book launch was held on February 27th at the City University of New York (CUNY). The launch was sponsored by the Public Science Project and the CUNY Graduate Center.

Download the Selikoff Occupational Safety App

The Mount Sinai Selikoff Occupational Safety App is a resource for workers on topics related to occupational health. The Mount Sinai Selikoff Occupational Safety App is available today for free. iPhone users, download it on the [Apple App Store](#) and Android users, download it on the [Google Play Store](#).



[The Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine](#) is committed to preventing and treating occupational and environmental injury and illness through clinical services, education, and research. The Division is under direction of Roberto Lucchini, MD and a part of the Department of Environmental Medicine and Public Health at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

