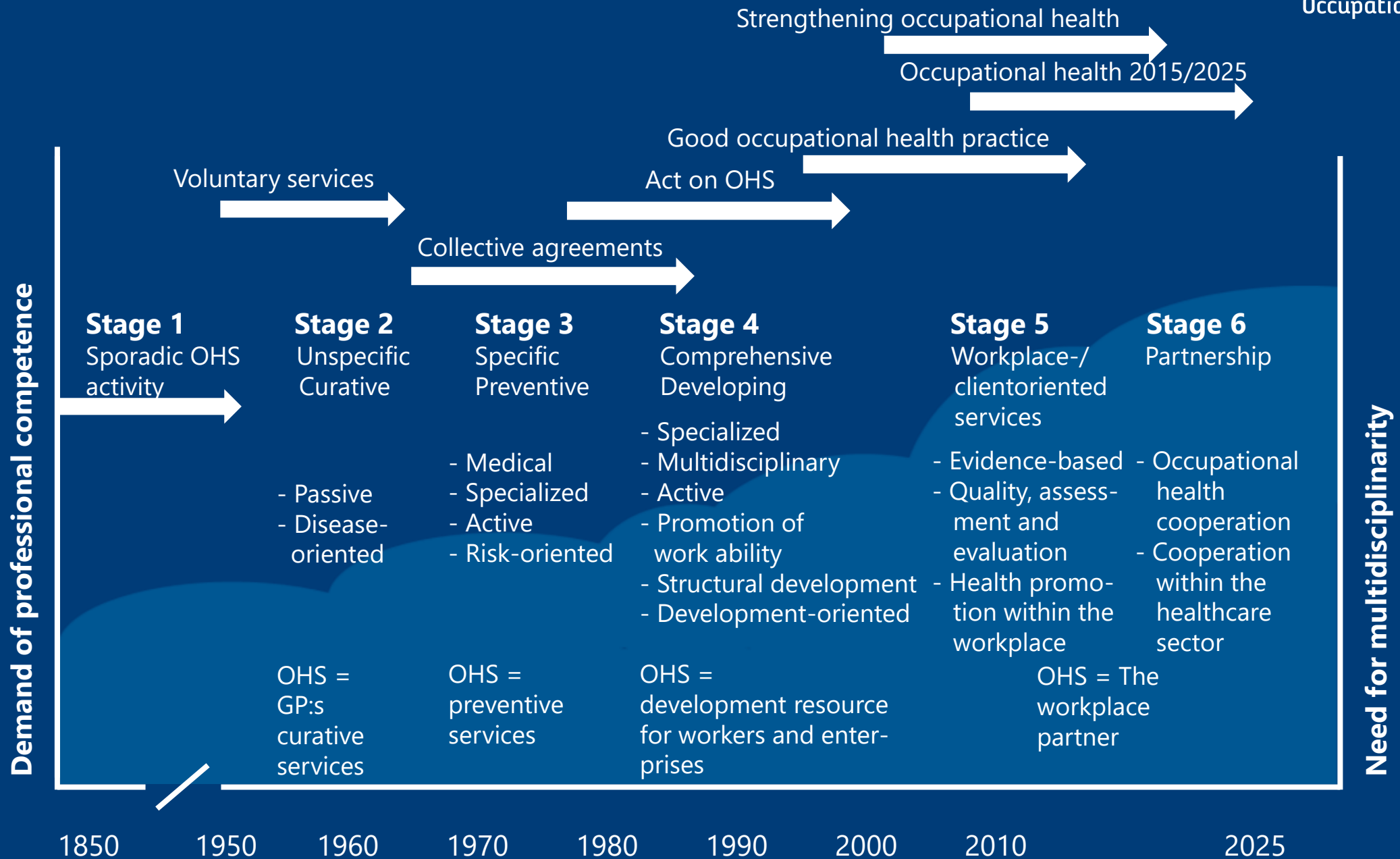


Finnish Institute of  
Occupational Health

# Universal access to Occupational Health Finland

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# **“Universal access” OH care in Finland**

# Occupational safety and health

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## Occupational Safety and Health Act

- improve the working environment and working conditions
- ensure and maintain the work ability of employees
- prevent occupational accidents and diseases and eliminate other hazards from work and the working environment to the health of employees.

## Occupational Health Care Act

Promote through cooperation between the employer, the employee and the occupational health care provider:

- the prevention of work-related illnesses and accidents;
- the healthiness and safety of the work and the working environment;
- the health, work ability and functional capacity of employees at the different stages of their working careers; and
- the functioning of the workplace community

## Government Decree

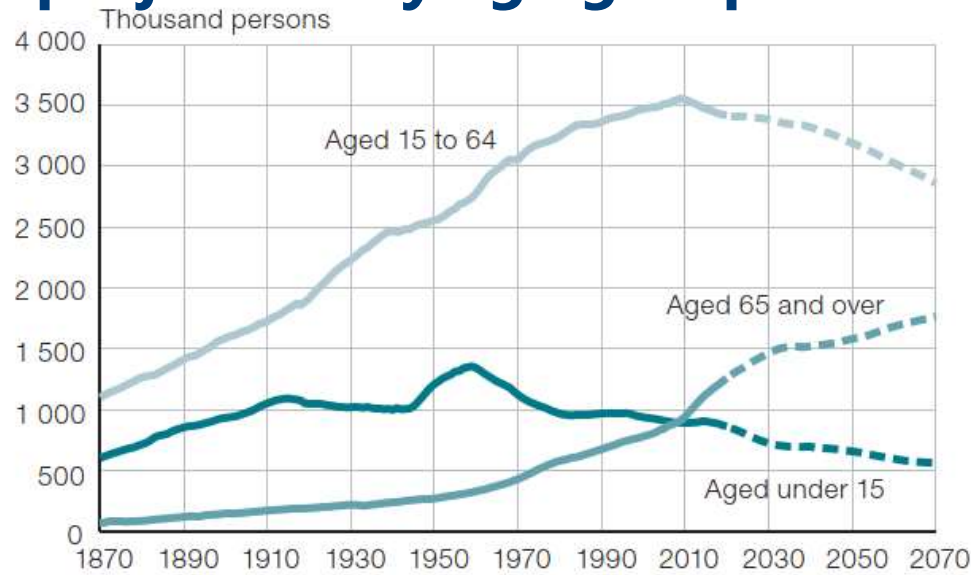
- Content of occupational health care and the educational qualifications required
- Systematic multiprofessional cooperation – health and work ability
- Good occupational practice and operating methods



**Population**

**5.533 M**

**Population and population projection by age group**

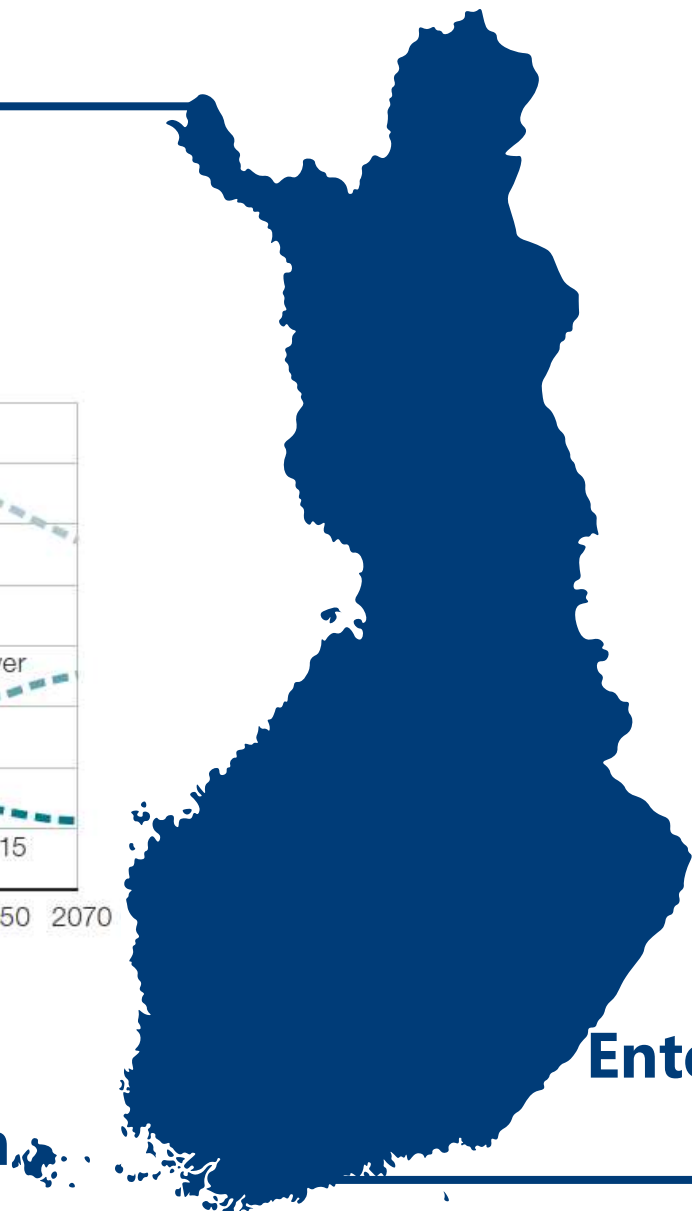


**Labour force**  
**Employed**  
**Unemployed**

**2.741 M**

**2.528 M**

**213 Th**



**0,2 %**  
**0,9 %**  
**4,6 %**

**94,3%**

**Enterprises**



**250 -**  
**50-249**  
**10-49**

**1-10**

**Number of employees**

# Occupational Health Services

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## Organising Occupational health services

- **Statutory for all employers**
- **The employer shall arrange occupational health care at his own expense**
- **Occupational health care shall be organised and implemented to the extent required by the work, working arrangements, personnel and workplace conditions, and any changes in these**
- **Self-employed/entrepreneurs have the right to organise OH services for themselves**

## Optional

- **The possibility to organise and include curative medical services to the agreement on (preventive) OH services**

# Occupational Health Services



**~87 % Coverage  
OH agreements**



**~80% Include curative  
medical services**



**~91% Coverage  
~2 M Employees**

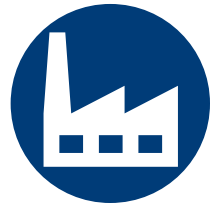


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~ 570 000 h  
Work place surveys



~ 208 000 h  
Information, counselling  
and guidance for groups



~1,2 M  
Information, counselling  
and guidance appointments



~ 1,4 M  
(Preventive care)  
Medical examinations

~0,3 M of these are  
medical examinations  
in work that presents a  
special risk of illness



~ 4,3 M  
(Curative medical care)  
Appointments



# Health insurance Act



Labour income insurance

~70,5%  
Employer



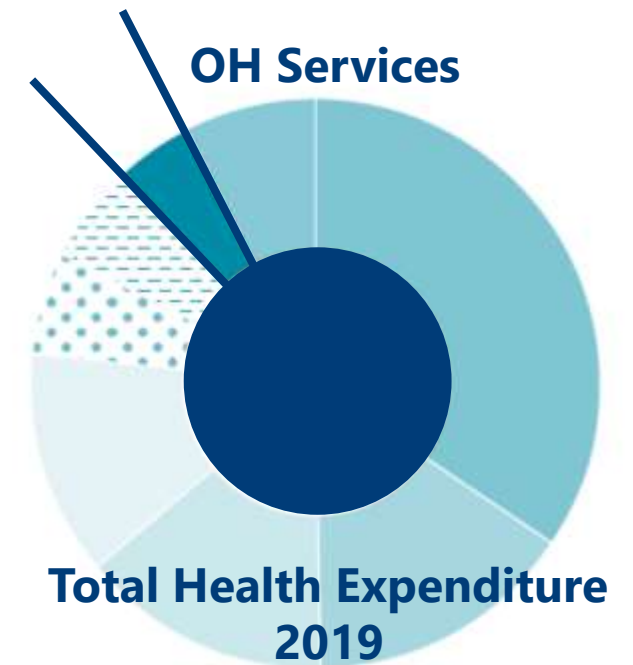
~29,0%  
Employees



~ 0,5%  
Government



Reimbursement  
The social insurance institution



# Cost per person



~ 452 €  
Average cost  
per person/year

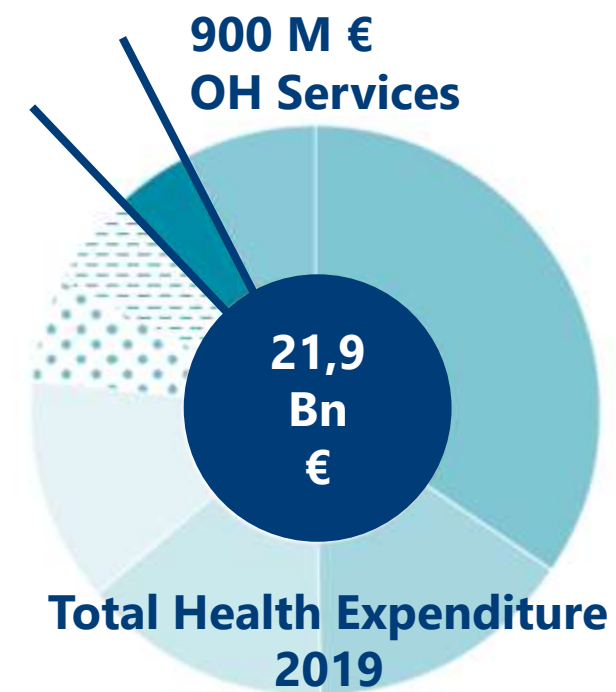


~ 189 €  
Average reimbursement  
per person/year



Reimbursement

367  
M  
€



# **“Universal access” Utilising the OH competence**

## Health and social services reform

**The objective of Finland's health and social services reform is to ensure that everyone has equal access to high-quality health and social services.**

**The reform will develop healthcare and social welfare services and reorganise their structure.**

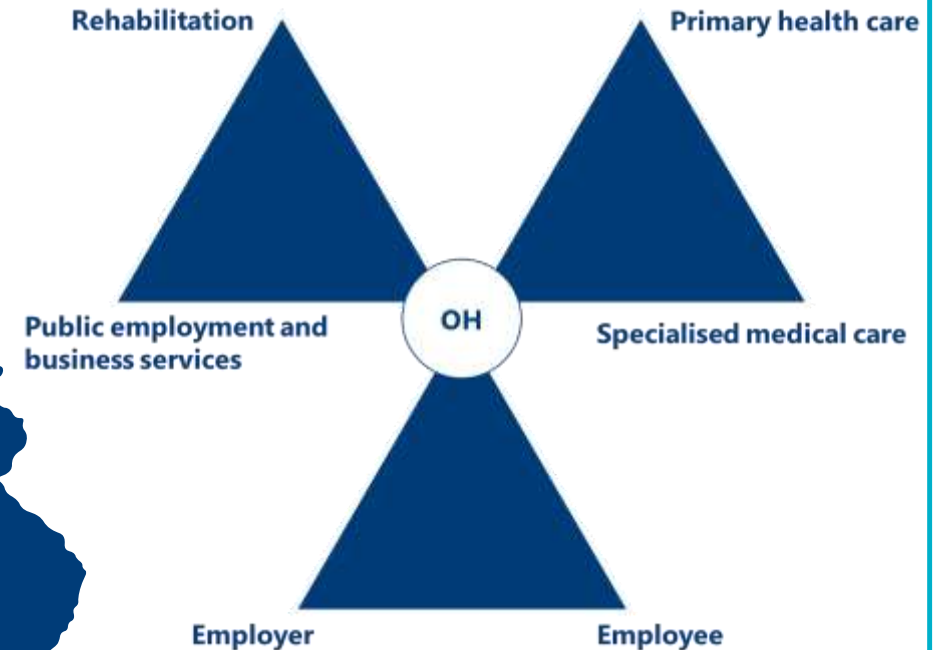
**Basic public services and preventive work will be strengthened. The aim is to ensure that people have smooth access to health and social services and receive help for their individual needs.**

**The wellbeing services counties are responsible for ensuring that services correspond to the needs of county residents and are equally available.**



## Towards 2025 – development guidelines

- OH care is functionally integrated into the social and health care system
- The OH care, health care and rehabilitation system co-operates in a timely manner in preventing and restoring the incapacity for work of working-age people
- OH care has the capacity to respond to health and work ability challenges
- All employers have provided OH care regardless of the size of the company
- OH care is a major partner in the workplace in promoting work ability and preventing incapacity for work
- OH care services to meet the needs of small-scale enterprises and entrepreneurs



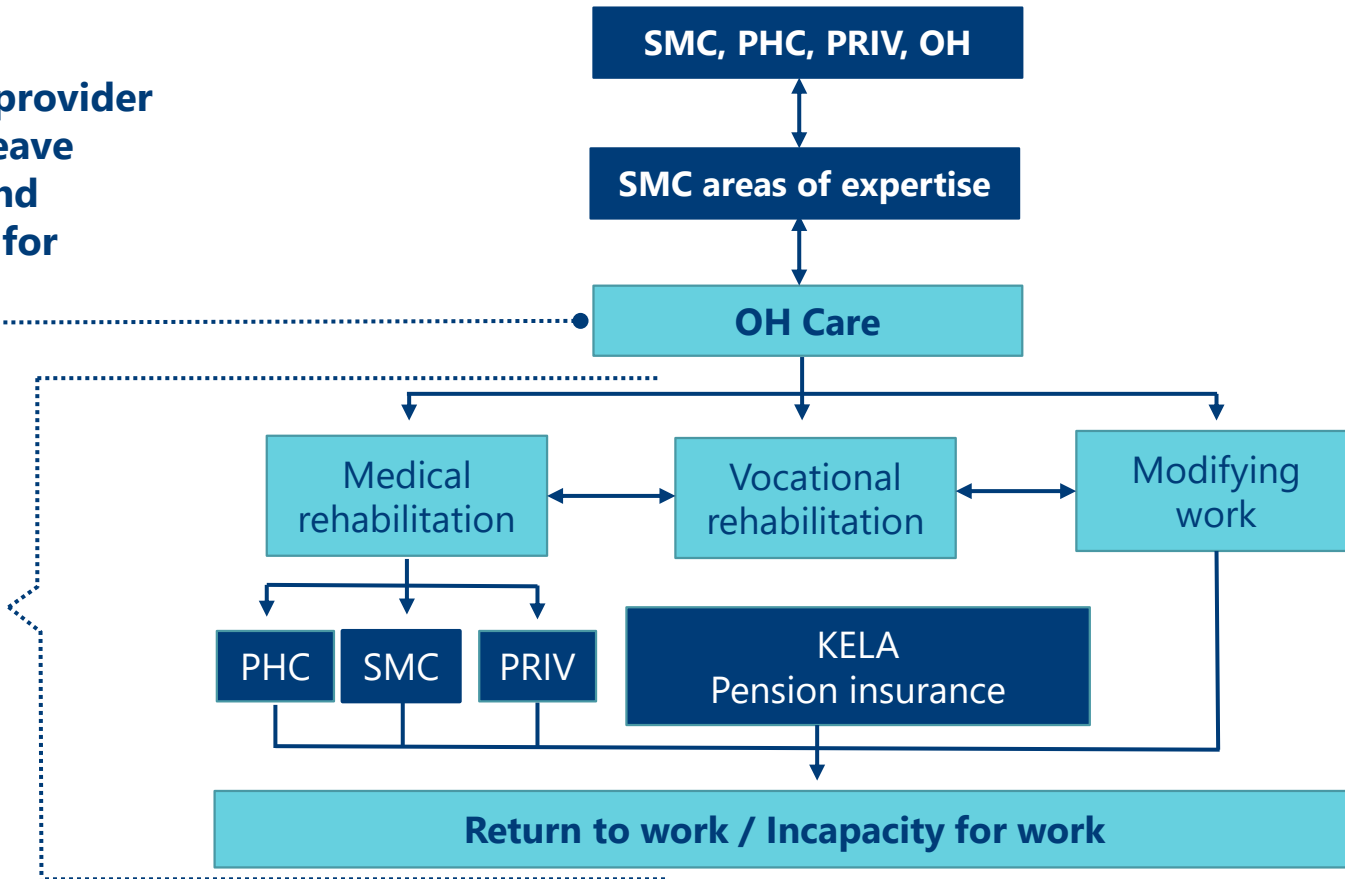
**Work ability and health  
through cooperation**

The patient is guided to the OH care provider by the SMC unit after a shorter sick leave period, for work ability assessment and drawing up an individual health plan for return to work



OH is to act as coordinator and case manager on issues and interventions regarding support of the patients work ability

**Note! Interventions regarding work ability issues are part of the statutory OH care Act**



SMC = Specialised medical care  
 PH = Primary health care  
 PRIV = Private medical care

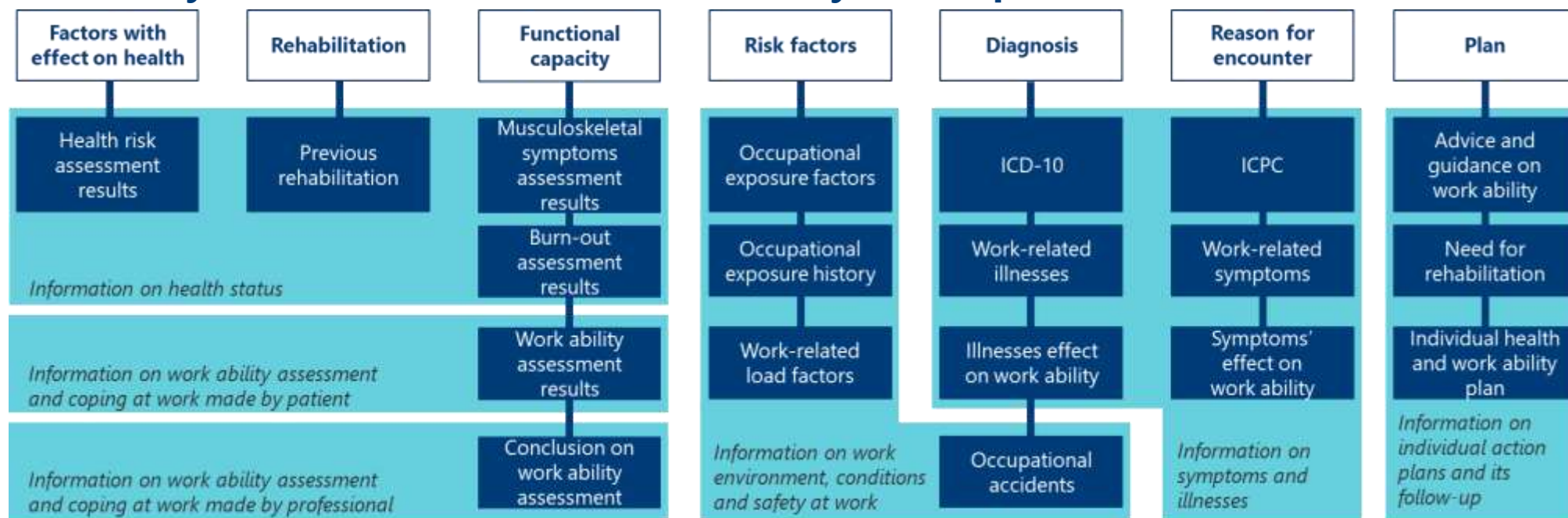
Adaptation: Suomen lääkärilehti. 2019;74(17):1048-1051

**“Universal access”  
Knowledge management –  
making OH and work ability data  
structurally accessible**

# Ongoing development

## – Determining work ability data and making it structurally accessible

### Nationally uniform data model for work ability data in patient records



Adaptation of Nissinen S 2019.



Occupational Safety and Health Act 738/2002. <https://finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/2002/en20020738>

Occupational Health Act 1383/2001. <https://finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/2001/20011383>

Government Decree on the principles of good occupational health care practice, the content of occupational health care and the qualifications of professionals and experts 708/2013. <https://finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/2013/20130708>

Government Decree on medical examinations in work that presents a special risk of illness 1485/2001. <https://finlex.fi/en/laki/kaannokset/2001/en20011485>

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The policy outlines for Occupational Health Care 2025. Government resolution, press release 2017. Future challenges of occupational health care: supporting ability to work and preventing incapacity for work. [https://stm.fi/en/-/tyoterveyshuollon-tulevaisuuden-haasteena-ovat-tyokyvyn-edistaminen-ja-tyokyvyttomyden-ehkaisy?\\_101\\_INSTANCE\\_yr7QpNmIjMjSj\\_languageld=fi\\_FI](https://stm.fi/en/-/tyoterveyshuollon-tulevaisuuden-haasteena-ovat-tyokyvyn-edistaminen-ja-tyokyvyttomyden-ehkaisy?_101_INSTANCE_yr7QpNmIjMjSj_languageld=fi_FI)

Suomen lääkärilehti. 2019;74(17):1048-1051. New support for return to work of temporarily incapacitated workers: Results of operational integration of occupational health and other health services (English summary).

Kanta – Patient data repository. <https://www.kanta.fi/en/what-are-kanta-services>

Nissinen S, Leino T, Oksanen T, Saranto K. Relevant Patient Data for Health Information Exchange: A Delphi Method Study among Occupational Health Professionals. *Occup Med Health Aff* 2016;4:244.

Nissinen S, Oksanen T, Leino T, Kinnunen U-M, Ojajärvi A, Saranto K. Documentation of work ability data in Occupational Health Records, *Occupational Medicine* 2018;68:2.

Nissinen S. Putting the work ability data into use. The nationally uniform data model for the work ability data in patient record. Dissertation. University of Eastern Finland, 2019

Nissinen S, Leino T, Tarvainen K, Soini S. Occupational Health Physicians as Users of Electronic Health Records. *Occupational Medicine*. 2020. doi:10.1093/occmed/kqaa138.

Nissinen S. Experiences of National Documentation in Electronic Health Records: The Study Among Occupational Health Nurses. *Stud Health Technol Inform*. 2020;270:1281-1282. doi:10.3233/SHTI200402.

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**Thank you!**

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