

Concern: Occupational medical view on Ms. Anette Koch's ability to conduct PC work

Dear Sir or Madam,

My team colleagues and I conducted an independent employment medical examination and assessed Ms. Anette Koch's ability to work, under the Dutch regulations for such examinations.

We have found that Ms. Koch's illness, in particular multiple herniated cervical discs, osteochondrosis and spondylarthrosis of the cervical vertebrae and RSI/CANS with myofascial trigger points, is chronic and showed signs of progression over the years. We also found that Ms. Koch is currently unable to work in her profession for these reasons. The results of our examination have been documented in a report (in Dutch).

In the framework of Ms. Koch's employment medical examination, she provided evidence that she was set procedural terms of 30 days in a plurality of procedures repeatedly and was refused an extension of such terms, and that complying with the plurality of procedural terms caused her intense PC work around six hours daily.

Such intense PC work is not in line with our advice mentioned in the conclusion of our employment medical report. We refer to page 8, upper part, in which we have stated that if Ms. Koch would be able to resume her work in her profession in future, she could only do so with significant restrictions, i.e., if she were assigned PC tasks for only 2 hours a day, non-PC tasks for four hours per day. This means that her total working hours remain limited to six hours a day. Furthermore it is mandatory that her workstation is optimized to ergonomic standards including voice recognition software at her disposal.

Hence a balanced work/rest ratio is obligatory.

Sincerely yours,



Leo Elders MD PhD, Clinical Employment Medical Physician Rotterdam, 16th August 2016