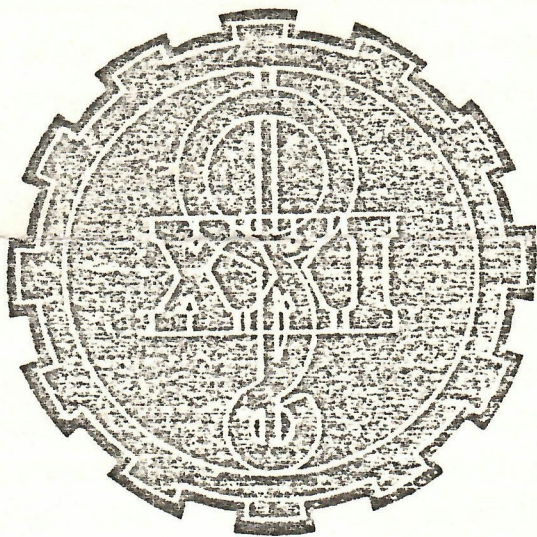


**XXI INTERNATIONAL
CONGRESS
ON
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH**

**9-14, September, 1984
Dublin, Ireland**



ABSTRACTS

Compiled and Edited by
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In order to evaluate the role of vocal Audiometry in Industrial hearing loss localized at frequencies above 2 KHz we performed 80 examinations consisting in tonal audiometry, vocal audiometry and impedenzometry in workers exposed to industrial noise in the range of 87 to 93 dB for a period of more than 5 years.

In 41 cases we found a hearing loss only at frequencies between 3 and 8 KHz with the tonal audiometry. 25 of these showed alterations in the vocal audiometry, with recruitment of right shift of the response curve of more than 25 dB, without abnormalities on the tympanogram or the stapedious reflex recorded at 0.5, 1.2 KHz.

60% of the examinations with the hearing impairment only above 2 KHz, without evidence of middle ear pathology, showed significant modifications of the vocal audiometry.