

## **What is Occupational Medicine?**

The International Labour Organisation and World Health Organisation Committee on Occupational Health in 1950 produced a definition of Occupational health which demonstrates the whole scope of the task.

*"Occupational Health should aim at – the promotion and maintenance of the highest degree of physical, mental and social well being of workers in all occupations; the prevention among workers of departures from health caused by their working conditions; the protection of workers in their employment from risks resulting from factors adverse to health; placing and maintenance of a worker in an occupational environment adapted to his physiological and psychological equipment and, to summarise, the adaption of work to man and of each man to his job."*

Occupational Medicine is the branch of clinical medicine most active in the field of Occupational Health. Its principal role is the provision of health advice to organisations and individuals to ensure that the highest standards of Health and Safety at Work can be achieved and maintained. Occupational Physicians must have a wide knowledge of clinical medicine and be competent in a number of important areas.

