What was the patient’s occupation?
Alexis Descatha, Emmanuelle Deschamps

To cite this version:
Alexis Descatha, Emmanuelle Deschamps. What was the patient’s occupation?. JCR: Journal of Clinical Rheumatology, Lippincott, Williams & Wilkins, 2010, 16 (5), pp.249. <10.1097/RHU.0b013e3181d59d46>. <inserm-00524554>

HAL Id: inserm-00524554
http://www.hal.inserm.fr/inserm-00524554
Submitted on 8 Aug 2011

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L’archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire HAL, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d’enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.
What was the patient's occupation?

Alexis Descatha*, Emmanuelle Deschamps

Santé publique et épidémiologie des déterminants professionnels et sociaux de la santé INSERM : U687, IFR69, Université Paris Sud - Paris XI, Université de Versailles-Saint Quentin en Yvelines, FR

* Correspondence should be addressed to: Alexis Descatha <alexis.descatha@rpc.aphp.fr>

MESH Keywords Arthralgia; etiology; radiography; Dancing; Female; Foot Joints; radiography; Humans; Metatarsal Bones; radiography; Middle Aged; Occupational Diseases; etiology; radiography; Osteoarthritis; etiology; radiography; Tomography, X-Ray Computed

The CT scan shows characteristic but uncommon lesions, which are the results of almost 50 years of exposure.

A 55-year-old woman was suffering from pains in the feet. X-rays and the CT scan (sagittal CT scan reconstruction of the left foot) showed a bilateral flatfoot and a localized degenerative lesion of the tarsometatarsal joint. The joint between the medial cuneiform and the first metatarsal bone was particularly affected, so was the joint between the intermediate cuneiform and the second metatarsal bone.

Forty-nine years of dancing including 34 years as a professional dancer then as a teacher potentially caused the unusual localized osteoarthritis of the tarsometatarsal joint (1), or at least it accelerated the degenerative process (2). One may suppose that repetitive or neglected microtraumatisms, especially when dancing on points (4) led directly to the disorder or to an acquired flatfoot which worsened these lesions (5). Because of the pain, she stopped dancing.

Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank: Dr Potier, general practitioner, in charge of the patient, Dr Carlier, radiologist, who helps us to read the CT scan and Ms Laborde, English Supervisor in our University, who helps us to improve our English.

References:

2. Huwyler J. Changes in the skeleton of the middle foot caused by professional classical dancing. Sportverletz Sportschaden. 1989; 3: (1) 14 - 20

Figure 1