

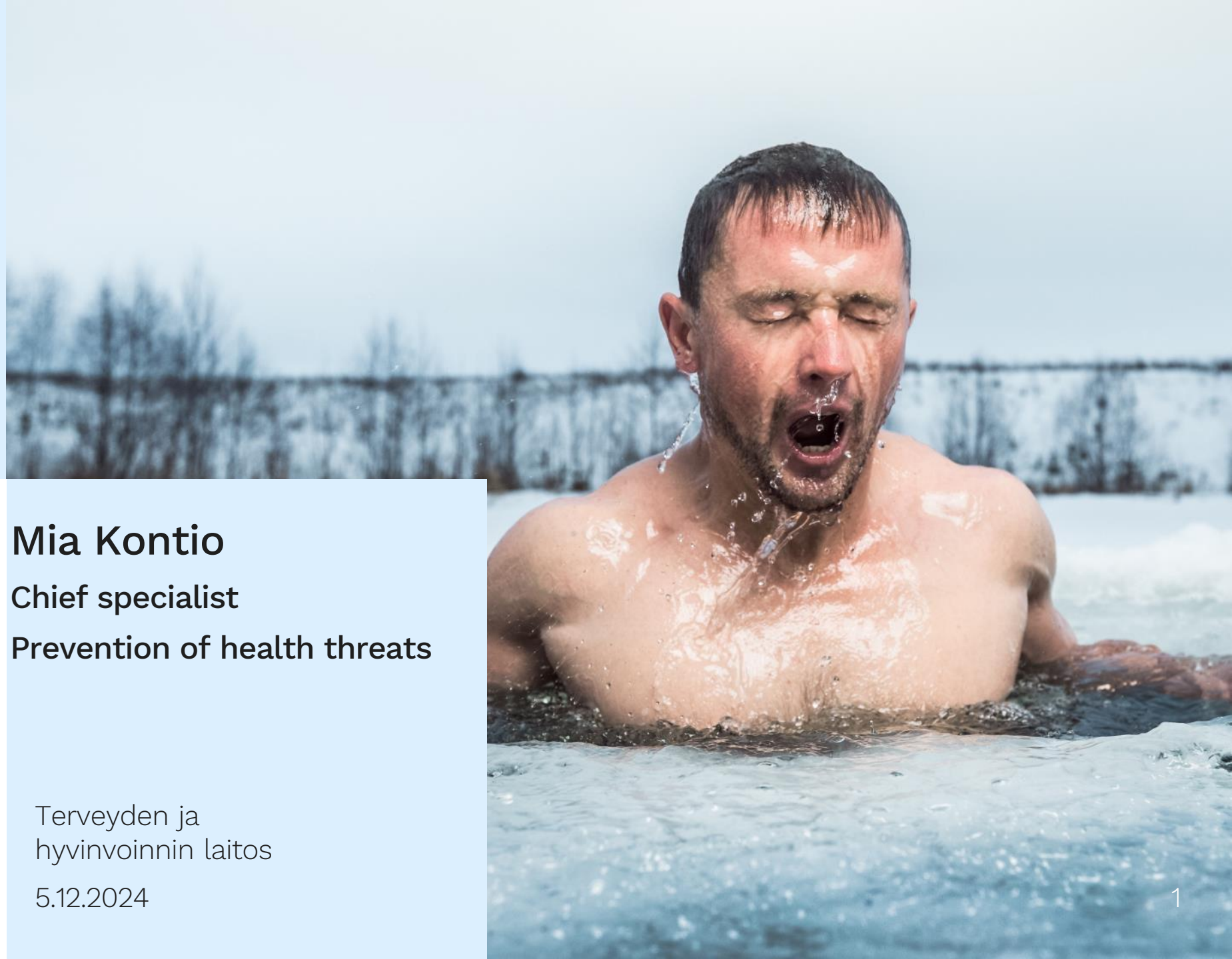


Health care provider vaccinations

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Prevention of health threats

Terveyden ja
hyvinvoinnin laitos

5.12.2024



Legislation

- According to the Occupational Safety and Health Act, **the employer is responsible** for ensuring the health and safety of employees at work. This also includes the vaccinations that employees need due to their work.
- **The employer must monitor and assess the hazards and risks** of the work environment and take measures to identify and mitigate them. In this, the employer must, if necessary, use the assistance of occupational health professionals.
 - The employer covers the cost of vaccinations that protect employees from work-related hazards.

Social and healthcare workers vaccinations and supporting staff

- Vaccinations are part of occupational and patient safety
- The employer is obliged to protect the employee from biological hazards related to work tasks
- § 48 of the Infectious disease act applies to those who work in **customer and patient premises** where there are patients susceptible to serious consequences of infectious diseases.
- National vaccination program vaccines used

Social and healthcare worker vaccination implementation

- Vaccines are distributed through a network of hospital pharmacies and dispensaries
 - Separate from pharmacy distribution network
- Wellbeing services counties are responsible for the implementation of the national vaccination program.
- Private actors and occupational health can give the vaccines but receive them from the wellbeing services counties
- Vaccinations given due to work-related hazards that are not part of the national vaccination program are provided through the employer's occupational health services (Communicable Diseases Act 1227/2016).



Vaccinations included and exceptions

- Measles, Varicella, Influenza
 - Rationale: small children, pregnant, immunocompromised, elderly
- Pertussis for those working with infants

- A person with inadequate vaccination protection can only be used for a special reason
 - There is no other professional staff available
 - A new employee has to be put to work quickly
 - The employee's own state of health prevents vaccination

Vaccinations recommended due to occupational risk also to

- Laboratory workers: influenza and polio
- Daycare workers: Influenza, varicella and MMR
- School workers: varicella
- Waste management workers: hepatitis A and polio
- Prison workers and police officers: hepatitis B
- Field work: TBE in risk areas
- Avian influenza vaccines for certain groups

Vaccinations relevant to absence from work

- Adult vaccinations in private sector and in occupational health care
 - Influenza
 - Covid-19
 - Pneumococcus
 - Shingles
- Childrens vaccinations
 - Influenza
 - Rotavirus
 - Varicella
- In the future
 - RSV
 - Other?





Thank you!