

Common External Marks of Occupation or Occupational Diseases or Other Diseases (*continued*)

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Mark or sign	Probable cause	Significance	Comment
Extremities Apart from Skin, <i>continued</i>			
Bursitis (excess fluid around joints).	Friction, pressure, or infection.	Bursae are potential spaces in connective tissue around joints that grow in response to functional demand. R. M. I.	Many varieties constitute occupational diseases, as in "beat elbow" in miners.
Clubbed fingers.	Congenital, or may be related to heart disease.	Various occupations lead to some bulbing of finger ends from hypertrophy; cause of the relationship to silicosis and heart disease obscure.	Many other variations in shape of fingers. Toes may be clubbed.
Joint enlargement (arthritis).	Usually infection and gout.	Bony enlargement frequently called rheumatism, usually in error; ordinarily represents reaction of infection or infection products.	Some occupational diseases, such as lead poisoning, infrequently lead to bone and joint enlargement.
Varicose veins.	Hydrostatic pressure, infection among others.	May appear anywhere, but most common in lower extremities; little related to work as a cause.	Frequently associated with indolent ulcers.
Flat feet (pes plenus).	May be congenital; may result from weight bearing; may be related to degeneration of senility.	A well-known common affection important to industry but little caused by it.	May be influenced for good or bad respectively by good or poor footwear.
Saber shins.	Congenital syphilis.	Forward bending and thickening of middle third of tibia.	Knobby shin bones in absence of saber deformity also suggests syphilis.
Wrist drop (wrist weakness).	Metal poisoning, usually lead or arsenic. Alcohol.	A frequent feature of lead poisoning; its counterpart is ankle drop; seen in lead poisoning when leg muscles are much used. R. M. I.	Many other muscle groups similarly may be weak in metal poisoning, and chiefly in lead poisoning.
Tremors.	Different causes for different types.	Many types involving many portions of the body from fingers to tongue. May be related to various diseases and states, including fear, goiter, Parkinson's disease, lead poisoning, etc. R. M. I.	Some tremors cease on the accomplishment of an intention; thus a marked tremor may exist in reaching for a book and cease when the book is picked up.

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