research alert

August 16, 2024

ABOUT RESEARCH ALERT

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Journal articles marked with an asterisk indicate an IWH scientist or adjunct scientist is included in the list of authors.

***Gignac MAM, Bowring J, Navaratnerajah L, Saunders R, Jetha A, Thompson A, Shaw WS, Franche RL, Van Eerd D, Irvin E, Tompa E, MacDermid JC, Smith PM. The Job Demands and Accommodation Planning Tool (JDAPT): a nine-month evaluation of use, changes in self-efficacy, presenteeism, and absenteeism in workers with chronic and episodic disabilities. Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation. 2024; [epub ahead of print].**
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10926-024-10231-w **[open access]**
Abstract: Purpose: Enhancing workplace communication and support processes to enable individuals living with disabilities to sustain employment and return to work is a priority for workers, employers, and community stakeholders. The objective of this study was to evaluate a new resource that addresses support challenges, the Job Demands and Accommodation Planning Tool (JDAPT), and assess its use, relevance, and outcomes over a nine-month follow-up period. Methods: Workers with physical and mental health/cognitive conditions causing limitations at work were recruited using purposive sampling. Online surveys were administered at baseline (prior to using the JDAPT), and at three and nine months post-baseline. Information was collected on demographics (e.g., age, gender) and work characteristics (e.g., job sector, organization size). Outcomes included assessing JDAPT use and relevance, and changes in self-efficacy, work productivity difficulties, employment concerns, difficulties with job demands, and absenteeism. Results: Baseline participants were 269 workers (66% women; mean age 41 years) of whom 188 (69.9%) completed all three waves of data collection. Many workers reported using JDAPT strategies at and outside of work, and held positive perceptions of the tool's usability, relevance, and helpfulness. There were significant improvements (Time 1-2; Time 1-3) in self-efficacy, perceived work productivity, and absenteeism with moderate to large effect sizes in self-efficacy and productivity (0.46 to 0.78). Findings were consistent across gender, age, health condition, and work context variables. Conclusions: The JDAPT can enhance support provision and

provide greater transparency and consistency to workplace disability practices, which is critical to creating more inclusive and accessible employment opportunities.

***McLeod CB, Macpherson RA, He A, Amick BC, Koehoorn M, and Tompa E. The impact of regulatory workplace safety inspections on workers' compensation claim rates. American Journal of Industrial Medicine. 2024; [epub ahead of print]. [open access]**
https://doi.org/10.1002/ajim.23640
Abstract: BACKGROUND: Studies on the impact of workplace safety inspections on work injuries have found mixed effectiveness. Most studies are from the United States, examining Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) regulatory inspections in manufacturing firms with more than 10 employees. This study examines whether regulatory inspections in Alberta, Canada, result in reductions in workers' compensation claims rates for inspected firms relative to comparable non-inspected firms. METHODS: Firm and claim-level data from the Workers' Compensation Board of Alberta were linked with regulatory enforcement data from the Government of Alberta for construction, manufacturing, and transportation firms with at least one full-time employee for 37 consecutive months. A matched difference-in-differences study design was used to estimate changes in lost-time claim rates for work-related injuries and musculoskeletal diseases of inspected and comparable non-inspected firms between the year pre-inspection and 2 years, post-inspection, controlling for firm-level characteristics. RESULTS: Inspections were not effective in reducing firm-level claim rates, with the exception of transportation firms with more than one inspection experiencing a 28% decrease in their claim rate in the second year post-inspection, relative to the change in non-inspected firms. In construction, inspected firms experienced a 12% increase in their claim rate in the first year post-inspection. No effect was observed in the manufacturing sector. CONCLUSIONS: Regulatory workplace safety inspections in Alberta generally do not result in greater reductions in firm-level claim rates in the construction, manufacturing, and transportation sectors. Inspections alone may not be sufficient to induce compliance or hazard management changes that lead to reductions in firm-level injuries

***Shahidi FV, Liao Q, Landsman V, Mustard C, Robson LS, Biswas A, Smith PM. Is precarious employment an occupational hazard? Evidence from Ontario, Canada. Occupational and Environmental Medicine. 2024; [epub ahead of print].**
https://doi.org/10.1136/oemed-2024-109535
Abstract: OBJECTIVES: To examine the association between precarious employment and risk of occupational injury or illness in Ontario, Canada. METHODS: We combined accepted lost-time compensation claims from the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board with labour force statistics to estimate injury and illness rates between January 2016 and December 2019. Precarious employment was imputed using a job exposure matrix and operationalised in terms of temporary employment, low wages, irregular hours, involuntary part-time employment and a multidimensional measure of 'low', 'medium', 'high' and 'very high' probabilities of exposure to precarious employment. Negative binomial regression models examined exposure to precarious employment in relation to risk of occupational injury or illness. RESULTS: After adjusting for age, sex and year, all indicators of precarious employment were associated with increased risk of injury or illness. Workers with 'high' and 'very' high' exposure to precarious employment presented a nearly threefold risk of injury or illness (rate ratio (RR): 2.81, 95% CI 2.73 to 2.89; RR: 2.82, 95% CI 2.74 to 2.90). Further adjustment

for physical demands and workplace hazards attenuated associations, though a statistically and substantively significant exposure-outcome relationship persisted for workers with 'high' and 'very high' exposures to precarious employment (RR: 1.65, 95% CI 1.58 to 1.72; RR: 2.00, 95% CI 1.92 to 2.08). CONCLUSIONS: Workers exposed to precarious employment are more likely to sustain a lost-time injury or illness in Ontario, Canada. Workplace health and safety strategies should consider the role of precarious employment as an occupational hazard and a marker of work injury risk

Alexander BM, Ramirez-Cardenas A, Wurzelbacher SJ, Meyers AR, and Naber SJ. Oil and gas extraction industry workers' compensation claims and proposed safety interventions. Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. 2024; 66(8):635-647.
https://doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0000000000003124
Abstract: OBJECTIVE: This study analyzed Ohio workers' compensation data to identify potential prevention strategies for common oil and gas extraction industry claims. METHODS: Claim rates for 2001-2018 were calculated per full-time equivalent employee. Descriptive analyses on free-text descriptions of lost-time (LT) claims (>7 days away from work) identified common characteristics among claims and injured workers. RESULTS: Among 3134 claims, 860 (27%) were LT. The industry group, drilling contractors, experienced the highest LT claims rate, whereas the cost from servicing contractors was the highest. Contact with objects and equipment caused the highest LT claims rate. The most frequent LT occupation was roustabout, and the most frequent LT work activity was material handling. Transportation incidents caused most fatalities and hospitalizations. Over half of LT claims were from short-tenured workers. CONCLUSIONS: Both proven and innovative approaches are needed to reduce severe workers' compensation claims in this industry

Baum CF, Loof H, Stephan A, and Zimmermann KF. Estimating the wage premia of refugee immigrants: lessons from Sweden. ILR Review. 2024; 77(4):562-597.
https://doi.org/10.1177/00197939241261640 [open access]
Abstract: This article examines the wage earnings of refugee immigrants in Sweden. Using administrative employer–employee data from 1990 onward, approximately 100,000 refugee immigrants who arrived between 1980 and 1996 and were granted asylum are compared to a matched sample of native-born workers. Employing recentered influence function (RIF) quantile regressions to wage earnings for the period 2011–2015, the occupational-task-based Oaxaca–Blinder decomposition approach shows that refugees perform better than natives at the median wage, controlling for individual and firm characteristics. This overperformance is attributable to female refugee immigrants. Given their characteristics, refugee immigrant females perform better than native females across all occupational tasks studied, including non-routine cognitive tasks. A notable similarity of the wage premium exists among various refugee groups, suggesting that cultural differences and the length of time spent in the host country do not have a major impact

Cannady R, Warner C, Yoder A, Miller J, Crosby K, Elswick D, et al. The implications of real-time and wearable technology use for occupational heat stress: a scoping review. Safety Science. 2024; 177:106600.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ssci.2024.106600 [open access]
Abstract: Heat-related illnesses persist as an occupational health management challenge. The science community recognizes increasing global temperatures and related impacts. Occupational settings such as construction, agriculture, firefighting, hazardous waste operations, and factory workers are

most susceptible to heat-related incidents. We used an established scoping review framework and guidelines for developing the protocol, conducting the research, and reporting the results. This scoping review provides an overview of common wearable real-time technologies used to assess heat stress risk, as well as their use in existing research. This review adds to the existing literature by offering global commercially available real-time devices, identifying relevant literature related to device usage, and describing validation studies associated with the devices. Despite the improving solutions, real-time technologies require thoughtful consideration related to accuracy, validity, and worker interaction with the devices. The evidence synthesized in this scoping review highlights key implementation strategies and provides practical considerations to guide future explorations in this evolving field. Moving forward, we must continue to prioritize research and cross-industry collaboration to harness the full potential of wearable technology in promoting occupational health and safety

Coco L, Sanchez GD, Campuzano GA, Keeney AJ, and Romine JK. Hearing difficulties among farmworkers in the Mexico-US southwest border region. Journal of Immigrant & Minority Health. 2024; 26(4):1-10.
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10903-024-01592-8 [open access]
Abstract: Migrant and seasonal farmworkers are a vulnerable population with a potentially high risk for hearing loss due to farm-related noise exposures. Occupational noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) is permanent, and it is associated with an increased risk for injuries on the job, as well as communication difficulties, isolation, and depression. The México/US border region is one of the most productive agricultural regions in the country, however, no known studies have explored hearing loss among farmworkers in this area. This pilot study was a first step toward measuring and addressing hearing loss and noise exposure among this region's farmworkers. We conducted a cross-sectional survey to estimate the prevalence of subjective hearing difficulties among Yuma County, Arizona farmworkers. Survey interviews took place during a late-night farmworker health fair from 2 am to 6 am to accommodate local farms' labor schedules. Multivariable regression adjusted for demographic and work covariates estimated subjective hearing loss prevalence ratios. Among 132 farmworker participants, 36% reported they have or might have hearing loss, and 62% reported no hearing loss. Subjective hearing loss prevalence was lower in farmworkers who report not working in noise compared to prevalence in farmworkers who work in noise [prevalence ratio, 0.44 (95% CI 0.23-0.82)]. This report contributes to understanding the perception of hearing-related health and occupational exposures among farmworkers in the México-US Southwest border region. The information from this line of research will inform appropriate safety measures known to lower the risk of experiencing occupational NIHL.

Furtado T, Whiting M, Schofield I, Jackson R, and Tulloch JSP. Pain, inconvenience and blame: defining work-related injuries in the veterinary workplace. Occupational Medicine. 2024; [epub ahead of print].
https://doi.org/10.1093/occmed/kqae068
Abstract: BACKGROUND: The veterinary workplace carries a high risk of staff accidents and injuries, yet there is scant research exploring it in comparison with other comparable fields, such as human medicine. AIMS: To understand how veterinary professionals define injuries and to understand what injuries they do, or do not, deem reportable. METHODS: A cross-sectional survey comprising

demographic questions and open-text questions was shared with veterinary practice staff across the UK. Data were analysed descriptively and using an inductive content analysis. RESULTS: There were 740 respondents, who were broadly representative of the veterinary profession. There were differences in how injuries were defined; for example, small animal veterinarians expected injuries to involve blood, while equine and production animal veterinarians were more likely to expect injuries to reduce their ability to perform work and require medical treatment. Many suggested that 'all' workplace injuries should be reported; however, 'minor' injuries were often overlooked, for example, needlestick injuries did not always meet the criteria of being an 'injury'. Injuries caused by staff themselves (e.g. trips) were less likely to be reported than injuries that could be blamed on an external factor (e.g. dog bite). CONCLUSIONS: Collectively, the data suggest a wide-ranging perception of risk of injury in practice, with some harms seen as 'everyday norms'. Veterinary practices should interpret their injury statistics with a high degree of caution. They should explore the microcultures within their practices relating to worker perception of risk, injury and barriers to reporting

Jakobsen MD, Vinstrup J, and Andersen LL. Work-related fear-avoidance beliefs and risk of low-back pain: prospective cohort study among healthcare workers. Journal of Occupational Rehabilitation. 2024; [epub ahead of print].
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10926-024-10221-y
Abstract: PURPOSE: Low-back pain (LBP) is a prevalent condition among healthcare workers, negatively affecting well-being and work ability. Research has identified fear-avoidance beliefs, i.e., the belief that physical activities worsen or prolong pain, as a key psychological factor in LBP. Given the physical demands of healthcare work, understanding the link between fear-avoidance and LBP is crucial for effective prevention and management strategies. This study investigated the prospective association between fear-avoidance beliefs and risk of increased LBP intensity and duration in hospital workers. METHODS: Fear-avoidance beliefs and LBP were assessed in 1933 healthcare workers from 389 departments at 19 hospitals at baseline and 1-year follow-up. Associations between baseline work-related fear-avoidance beliefs (FABW) and LBP intensity and duration at follow-up were analyzed using cumulative logistic regression, adjusting for various factors including age, sex, baseline LBP, education, seniority, patient transfers, psychosocial work environment, and lifestyle. RESULTS: Moderate and high FABW was associated with higher odds of increased pain intensity (OR: 1.37 [95% CI 1.09-1.73] and 1.85 [95% CI 1.18-2.88], respectively) and prolonged pain duration (OR: 1.37 [95% CI 1.05-1.78] and 2.27 [95% CI 1.50-3.44], respectively). A sensitivity analysis including only female nurses showed similar results, with the high FABW group having significantly higher odds of increased pain intensity (OR 2.95, 95% CI 1.84-4.72) and duration (OR 2.64, 95% CI 1.55-4.49). CONCLUSIONS: Fear-avoidance beliefs increase the risk of LBP intensity and duration among healthcare workers, emphasizing the need for interventions dealing with psychological aspects of LBP

Kroneman M, Williams GA, Winkelmann J, Spreeuwenberg P, Davidovics K, and Groenewegen PP. Personal protective equipment for healthcare workers during COVID-19: developing and applying a questionnaire and assessing associations between infection rates and shortages across 19 countries. Health Policy. 2024; 146:105097.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.healthpol.2024.105097 **[open access]**
Abstract: This study aimed to assess the preparedness of European countries regarding personal protective equipment (PPE) for health and care workers (HCWs), the COVID-19 infection rates of

HCWs compared to the general working age population, and the association between these. We developed a PPE-preparedness scale based on responses to a questionnaire from experts in the Health Systems and Policy Monitor network, with a response rate of 19 out of 31 countries. COVID-19 infection data were retrieved form the European center for Disease Prevention and Control. Shortages of PPE were found in most countries, in particular in home care and long-term care. HCW infection rates, compared to the general population, varied strongly between countries, influenced by different testing regimes. We found no relationships between HCW infection rates, PPE preparedness and shortages of PPE. Improved surveillance in the population as well as for HCWS are needed to be able to better assess these relationships

Liddle M, Nicholls G, Leigh D, Kinder J, Curran A, and Zand M. Work-related slip, trip and fall injuries reported by National Health Service staff in Great Britain: how many are due to slipping? Injury Prevention. 2024; [epub ahead of print].
https://doi.org/10.1136/ip-2023-045210 [open access]
Abstract: Background: Workplace injuries due to a slip, trip or fall on the level (STF) are often reported together, making the potential impact of targeted interventions, such as slip-resistant footwear, difficult to assess. The objective of this research was to review workplace non-fatal injuries reported as STFs under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 to determine what proportion of staff STF injuries reported by the National Health Service (NHS) in Great Britain were caused specifically by a slip. Methods: The free text descriptions of all 1004 STF injuries reported by NHS staff in summer 2018 and winter 2018/2019 were independently reviewed by two researchers to determine whether a slip was the primary cause or not. Where agreement could not be reached or the cause was unclear, an STF specialist reviewed the reports to establish the likely cause. The kappa statistic was used to measure inter-reviewer agreement, and the X^2 test was used to compare proportions across seasons. Results: The reviewers agreed on the initiating event, slip or non-slip, for 917 (91.3%) of the incidents. The kappa statistic was 0.842 (95% CI 0.785 to 0.898) indicating strong agreement between reviewers. In total, 431 or 42.9% (95% CI 39.8% to 46.1%) of the STF incidents were slips. This percentage was greater in winter compared with summer (49.0% and 36.0%, respectively, $p<0.001$). Conclusion: The high proportion of slips among reported STF injuries implies that an effective intervention targeting workplace slips in the NHS could have a substantial impact on the number of injuries reported.

Menghini L and Balducci C. The daily costs of workaholism: a within-individual investigation on blood pressure, emotional exhaustion, and sleep disturbances. Journal of Occupational Health Psychology. 2024; 29(4):201-219.
https://doi.org/10.1037/ocp0000383
Abstract: Workaholism literature has been so far focused on individual differences in workaholic tendencies, considering the construct as a stable individual trait and highlighting its health and well-being consequences. Only recently, research has started inspecting the daily dynamics and potential consequences of state workaholism. In this preregistered study, we aimed at systematically investigating the within-individual fluctuations in workaholism levels and their potential short-term and delayed psychophysiological responses as captured by ambulatory assessment integrating subjective and objective data. Using an intensive longitudinal design over 10 workdays with 114 workers from various occupations (2,534 measurement occasions), we found higher systolic and

diastolic blood pressure, emotional exhaustion, and sleep disturbances in workdays characterized by higher-than-usual workaholism symptoms. Moreover, the reactivity to state workaholism, as indexed by afternoon blood pressure, was found as a mediator of the subsequent prolonged activation indexed by bedtime blood pressure. Finally, we found evidence of a buffering effect of evening psychological detachment on the relationship between state workaholism and sleep disturbances. Overall, our results support the conceptualization of workaholism as a multilevel phenomenon that acts as an internal job-related demand by showing the typical strain reactions triggered by well-characterized external demands. This study contributes to the literature by highlighting that transient workaholism symptoms can result in significant short-term stress responses at different levels, providing new, robust, and multisource evidence that underlies the importance of effectively preventing and managing dysfunctional work investment since its early manifestation. (PsycInfo Database Record (c) 2024 APA, all rights reserved)

Miyaji C, Kobayashi T, Habu H, Hagiyama A, Horie Y, and Takao S. Effect of COVID-19 infection on presenteeism: a cohort study using large health insurance-based data in Japan. Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. 2024; 66(8):630-634.
https://doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0000000000003128 [open access]
Abstract: OBJECTIVE: Presenteeism occurs when employees attend work despite experiencing problems and ill-health that require sick leave. This study examined whether presenteeism worsened following COVID-19 infection. METHODS: We used the DeSC, a large health insurance claims database. Participants were 9241 individuals who responded to questionnaires at baseline (June 2020) and 6 months later, had been continuously insured for at least 6 months prior to baseline, and reported being employed. Propensity score matching was performed. Adjusted multiple logistic regression was used to estimate odds ratios and 95% confidence intervals of worsening presenteeism from baseline according to COVID-19 infection compared with noninfection. RESULTS: Conditional logistic regression analysis showed that the adjusted OR for presenteeism in the COVID-19-infected group was 1.555 (95% confidence interval, 1.086-2.225). CONCLUSIONS: The findings suggest that COVID-19 infection affected worsening of presenteeism

Petty J, McLennan V, Kendall E, and Degeneffe CE. Scoping review of return-to-work interventions for persons with traumatic brain injury. Disability and Rehabilitation. 2024; 46(15):3243-3255.
https://doi.org/10.1080/09638288.2023.2243583
Abstract: PURPOSE: The study approach sought to understand which vocational rehabilitation (VR) strategies are available for individuals seeking return to work (RTW) following traumatic brain injury (TBI). Secondly, the review aimed to identify how these RTW interventions and outcomes are evaluated. MATERIALS AND METHODS: Using the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) approach, the scoping review began by identifying relevant English language articles via PubMed, CINAHL, PsycINFO, and Embase databases for peer-reviewed journal articles published from January 2013 to September 2021. The review focused on identifying studies with a sample population of people with moderate to severe TBI. RESULTS: A total of 23 studies met the search criteria. For each included study, the following data were extracted: (a) country of origin, (b) sample size, (c) civilian or military sample population, (d) age, (e) participant gender, (f) RTW definition, (g) intervention approach, and (h) RTW outcome. The results were synthesized by placement into one of four categories as a function of the study's underlying methodological

approach. CONCLUSIONS: The development of effective RTW approaches has largely been neglected in the rehabilitation literature for persons with TBI in civilian and military populations. Effective strategies do exist to help guide efforts to return this population to productive activity, including work. Implications for Rehabilitation Lack of productive engagement in work and school among persons with traumatic brain injury (TBI) presents a chronic challenge in rehabilitation systems internationally. Rehabilitation professionals should utilize multidisciplinary and integrated return-to-work (RTW) interventions given the varied areas of function that can result from TBI. Rehabilitation professionals should apply RTW interventions that promote on-site training and workplace integration. Given the idiosyncratic nature of TBI, RTW interventions should be tailored to meet the specific needs of the person seeking support

Richter A, Ulbricht S, and Brockhaus S. Categorization of continuous covariates and complex regression models: friends or foes in intersectionality research. Journal of Clinical Epidemiology. 2024; 171:111368.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2024.111368 [open access]
Abstract: Objectives: To reduce health inequities, it is important to identify intersections in characteristics of individuals subject to privilege or disadvantage. Different proposals for that have recently been published. One approach (1) considers models specified with first- and all second-order effects and another (2) the stratification based on multiple covariates; both categorize continuous covariates. A simulation study was conducted in order to review both methods with regard to identification of intersections showing true differences, rate of false-positive results, and generalizability to independent data compared to an established approach (3) of backward variable elimination according to Bayesian information criterion (BE-BIC) combined with splines. Study design and setting: R software has been used to simulate the covariates age, sex, body mass index, education, and diabetes to examine their association with a continuous frailty score for osteoporosis using multiple linear regression. In setting 1, none of the covariates was associated with the frailty score, that is, only noise is present in the data. In setting 2, the covariates age, sex, and their interaction were associated with the frailty score, such that only females above 55 years formed an intersection associated with an increased frailty score. All approaches were compared under varying sample sizes (N = 200-3000) and signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs, 0.5-4) in 1000 replications. For model evaluation, bootstrap resampling was used. The models were fitted in internal learning data and then used to predict outcomes in the internal validation data. The mean squared error (MSE) was used for comparison and the frequency of false-positive findings calculated. Results: In setting 1, approaches 1 and 2 generated spurious effects in more than 90% of simulations across all sample sizes. In a smaller sample size, approach 3 (BE-BIC) selected 36.5% of the correct model, in larger sample size in 89.8% and always had a lower number of spurious effects. MSE in independent data was generally higher for approaches 1 and 2 when compared to 3. In setting 2, approach 1 selected most frequently the correct interaction but frequently showed spurious effects (>75%). Across all sample sizes and SNR, approach 3 generated least often spurious results and had lowest MSE in independent data. Conclusion: Categorization of continuous covariates is detrimental to studies on intersectionality. Due to high and unrestricted model complexity, such approaches are prone to spurious effects and often lack interpretability. Approach 3 (BE-BIC) is considerably more robust against spurious findings, showed better generalizability to independent data, and can be used with most statistical software.

For intersectionality research, we consider it most important to describe relevant differences between intersections and to avoid nonreproducible and spurious findings.

Saint-Martin DRF, Barreto KA, Soares EMKV, Machado MS, Morais CSDS, Barbosa AMB, et al. A 7-month multidisciplinary healthy lifestyle intervention effectively improved cardiometabolic risk profile of firefighters. Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. 2024; 66(8):605-614.
https://doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0000000000003116
Abstract: OBJECTIVE: We investigated the effect of a 7-month healthy lifestyle intervention on cardiometabolic risk factors (CMRF) among male career military firefighters (FFs). METHODS: Forty-nine FFs participated in a 7-month workplace multidisciplinary healthy lifestyle intervention designed to reduce CMRF through exercise, diet, and improved sleep. Medical assessments, accelerometry, and surveys at the beginning and end determined program effectiveness. RESULTS: At the end of the intervention period, there was a significant improvement in measures of body composition and blood glucose. The prevalence of hypertension also decreased significantly ($P < 0.01$). The 57% of participants who fully adhered to the program had significantly greater improvements across multiple CMRF. Participants increased their physical activity and improved their diet following the intervention. CONCLUSIONS: This healthy lifestyle intervention was effective in changing behavior and lowering cardiometabolic risk among FFs

Torres-Cadavid E, Perez-Rios M, Candal-Pedreira C, Guerra-Tort C, Rey-Brandariz J, Provencio-Pulla M, et al. Lung cancer risk associated with occupations in women: a pooling study. Occupational Medicine. 2024; 74(5):348-354.
https://doi.org/10.1093/occmed/kqae050
Abstract: BACKGROUND: Occupation is an important risk factor for lung cancer. This knowledge is mainly based on studies conducted on men, with the results being generalized to women. AIMS: We aimed to identify the relationship between different occupations and lung cancer in women. METHODS: Pooling study in which data were pooled from six case-control studies conducted at 13 Spanish hospitals and 1 hospital in Portugal. Each woman's longest held job was coded as per the ISCO-08. Results were adjusted for age, smoking, and exposure to residential radon. RESULTS: The study population comprised 1262 women: 618 cases and 644 controls. The reference group were white-collar workers. The adjusted multivariate analysis showed a higher risk of developing lung cancer among teaching professionals (odds ratio [OR]: 4.36; 95% confidence interval [CI] 1.73-11.02), cooks (OR: 3.59; 95% CI 1.52-8.48), domestic cleaners and helpers (OR: 2.98; 95% CI 1.54-5.78), homemakers (OR: 2.30; 95% CI 1.26-4.21) and crop farmers, livestock farmers and gardeners (OR: 2.06, 95% CI: 1.11-3.81). For adenocarcinoma, the highest risk was observed in teaching professionals, and for small-cell carcinoma, the highest risk was observed in cooks. Higher risks were observed for small-cell carcinoma compared to other histological types. CONCLUSIONS: Some occupations may be associated with an increased risk of lung cancer in women and this risk could vary by histologic subtype; however, further research is needed to confirm these associations. In any case, protection measures must be implemented in the workplace aimed at reducing the risk of lung cancer among women workers, and more studies exclusively focused on women are warranted

Wang X, Sasangohar F, Payne S, and Mehta RK. Safety culture and worker fatigue management in the offshore oil and gas industry: an interview study. International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics.

2024; 102:103614.
https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ergon.2024.103614

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