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## Abstract

### Characteristics and Odds Ratio of Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders According to Job Classification in Small-to-medium-sized Enterprises

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**Objectives:** This study was carried to investigate the prevalence and odds ratio of work related musculoskeletal disorders according to the job classification in small-to-medium-sized enterprises(<300 employee).

**Methods:** A questionnaire survey was given to 746 workers in 8 workplaces. 501 workers (67.2%) were finally selected in this study. The workers in the 8 workplaces was divided into 7 jobs. Those were manufacturers(metal), assemblers(appliances), cashiers, packers(cosmetics), garbage collectors, and VDT workers.

Multiple logistic regression was used to estimate the odds ratios of the musculoskeletal symptoms according to the job classification.

**Results:** Univariate analysis showed that the significantly related risk factors for musculoskeletal symptoms are as follows; age, marital status, gender, work load change, work duration, hours worked per day, job demand, decision latitude, type of job.

According to the type of job, the prevalence of musculoskeletal symptoms were 7.7%(clerks), 24.3%(manufacturers), 30.0%(assemblers), 23.0%(cashiers), 30.4%(packers), 11.9%(garbage collectors), 29.2%(VDT workers).

Multiple logistic regression showed that the following significant odds ratios (reference-clerks): 7.32(packers), 5.63(assemblers), 5.11(cashiers), 4.79(VDT workers), 3.11(manufacturers).

**Conclusion:** In small-to-medium-sized enterprises, the job classification was major risk factor for work related musculoskeletal disorders. According to the job classification, the odds ratios of the work related musculoskeletal disorders were different.

Considering the odds ratios, the establishment of a prevention program of work related mus-

culoskeletal disorders is recommended.

**Key Words:** Small-to-medium-sized enterprises, Job classification, Work related musculoskeletal disorders

(, 1995), (, 1999; , 1999; , 2001; , 2001; , 2001), (, 1997), 가 (, 1999), (, 1997; , 2003; , 2003), (, 1998), (, 1999; , 2000), (, 2000), (, 2000), (, 2001)

가 90% (, 1996) 30% (, 1995; , 1997) 1998 8.9%(, 1998) 64% (OSHA, 2000), 44.1%(, 1996) 2001 5,576 가 1,598 28.7% (, 2001), 2002 가 1,827 33.7% (, 2002), 2003 가 4,532 49.6% 가 148.1% 가 (, 2003).

가 89 1999 (, 1989) 90 (, 2002) VDT(visual display terminal) (, 5 (4.4%), 5 1995; , 1998; , 1996), 50 (38.0%), 50 300

(22.2%), 300 1,000 (12.2%), (Fig. 1).  
1,000 (23.2%) 300

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Karasek(1979) 'job strain model' 5

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1 2) 가

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Karasek(1979) 'job strain model'

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1) (103 ), 2) 가

(104 ), 3) 가

(50 ), 4) 가

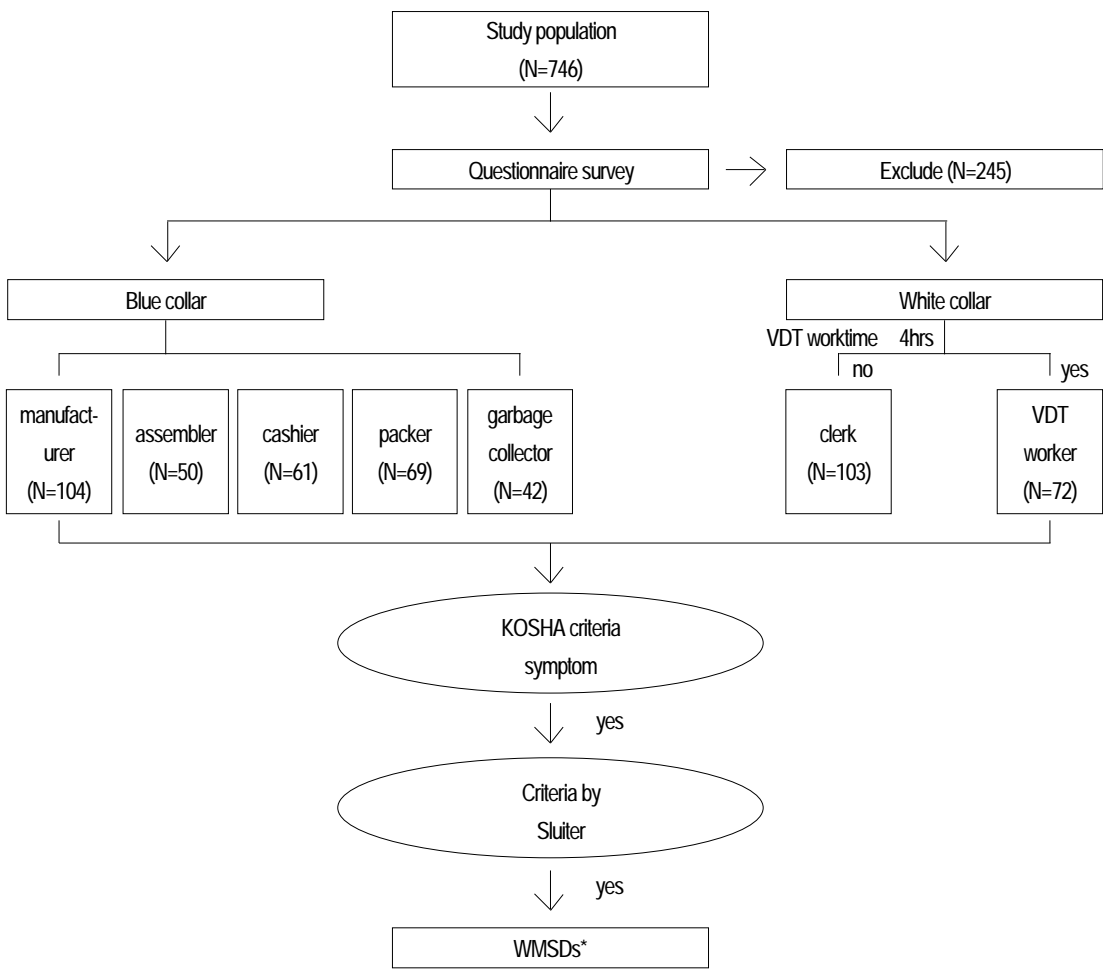
(61 ), 5)

(69 ), 6)

(42 ), 7) VDT

(72 )

가  
 (case definition) 가  
 (2001) Sluiter 가  
 ' Criteria document for evaluating the work-relatedness of upper-extremity musculoskeletal disorders ' , 11  
 3. SPSSWIN  
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 11 가



\* WMSDs: Work related Musculoskeletal Disorders

Fig 1. Frame of study design.

Chi square test t-test .

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( , , ), ( (26%), 30 (28%) 40  
( , , ) (22.9%) , (27.6%)  
(logistic regression) . (Table 1). 501  
109 (21.8%) .

2.

(reference)

**Table 1.** General characteristics of subjects and musculoskeletal symptoms

| Item           | Musculoskeletal symptoms (-)<br>N (%) | Musculoskeletal symptoms (+)<br>N (%) | p-value   |       |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| Sex            | male                                  | 227 (81.7)                            | 51 (18.3) | 0.039 |
|                | female                                | 165 (74.0)                            | 58 (26.0) |       |
| Age            | <30                                   | 121 (72.0)                            | 47 (28.0) | 0.062 |
|                | 30-39                                 | 144 (82.8)                            | 30 (17.2) |       |
|                | 40-49                                 | 81 (77.1)                             | 24 (22.9) |       |
|                | 50                                    | 45 (84.9)                             | 8 (15.1)  |       |
| Marital status | married                               | 241 (81.1)                            | 56 (18.9) | 0.025 |
|                | non-married                           | 131 (72.4)                            | 50 (27.6) |       |
| BMI            | <20.0                                 | 60 (78.9)                             | 16 (21.1) | 0.768 |
|                | 20.0-24.9                             | 235 (77.6)                            | 68 (22.4) |       |
|                | 25.0                                  | 69 (81.2)                             | 16 (18.8) |       |
| Drinking       | none                                  | 155 (78.3)                            | 43 (21.7) | 0.626 |
|                | 2-3/month                             | 118 (79.2)                            | 31 (20.8) |       |
|                | 1-2/week                              | 87 (79.1)                             | 23 (20.9) |       |
|                | 3/week                                | 25 (69.4)                             | 11 (30.6) |       |
| Smoking        | non-smoker                            | 219 (77.7)                            | 63 (22.3) | 0.412 |
|                | ex-smoker                             | 24 (70.6)                             | 10 (29.4) |       |
|                | current smoker                        | 137 (80.6)                            | 33 (19.4) |       |
| Exercise       | yes                                   | 62 (80.5)                             | 15 (19.5) | 0.599 |
|                | no                                    | 330 (77.8)                            | 94 (22.2) |       |

(25.5%), 가 5 9 (Table 3).  
 (30.9%), 8  
 (32.9%), (30.1%) 4.  
 (Table 2).  
 3. 가 , (30.4%) 가 (7.7%)  
 (30.0%) 가  
 (Table 4).  
 5.  
 가 가 , ( , , ),

**Table 2.** Work-related characteristics of subjects and musculoskeletal symptoms

| Item                   |             | Musculoskeletal symptoms (-)<br>N(%) | Musculoskeletal symptoms(+)<br>N(%) | p-value |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Shift work             | no          | 243 (77.9)                           | 69 (22.1)                           | 0.460   |
|                        | yes         | 94 (74.6)                            | 32 (25.4)                           |         |
| Extra work             | no          | 89 (85.6)                            | 15 (14.4)                           | 0.020   |
|                        | yes         | 234 (74.5)                           | 80 (25.5)                           |         |
| Work duration (year)   | <1          | 59 (83.1)                            | 12 (16.9)                           | 0.080   |
|                        | 1-4         | 196 (79.4)                           | 51 (20.6)                           |         |
|                        | 5-9         | 65 (69.1)                            | 29 (30.9)                           |         |
|                        | 10          | 55 (83.3)                            | 11 (16.7)                           |         |
| Worktime a day (hours) | 8           | 283 (79.7)                           | 72 (20.3)                           | 0.015   |
|                        | >8          | 53 (67.1)                            | 26 (32.9)                           |         |
| Work load change       | not changed | 219 (82.6)                           | 46 (17.4)                           | 0.006   |
|                        | decreased   | 31 (81.6)                            | 7 (18.4)                            |         |
|                        | increased   | 121 (69.9)                           | 52 (30.1)                           |         |

**Table 3.** Job stress and musculoskeletal symptoms

| Job stress        | Musculoskeletal symptoms (-)<br>Mean (SE) | Musculoskeletal symptoms (+)<br>Mean (SE) | p-value |
|-------------------|---|---|---------|
| Job demand        | 31.6 (0.37)                               | 34.3 (0.62)                               | 0.001   |
| Decision latitude | 54.3 (0.80)                               | 48.9 (1.12)                               | 0.001   |

( , , ), (10.1%) , / 가  
 ( , ) 가 (16.0%) 가  
 , (Table 6).

가 7.

7.32 가 (Table 5). (radiating neck complaint), , 가  
 6. (tenosynovitis in the fore-  
 arm-wrist) ,  
 , (radiating neck complaint), VDT  
 / , / 가 (radiating neck com-  
 VDT (20.8%) , / plaint) (tenosynovitis in

**Table 4.** Job classification and Musculoskeletal symptoms

| Job classification    | Musculoskeletal symptoms (-)<br>N (%) | Musculoskeletal symptoms (+)<br>N (%) | p-value |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| Clerk                 | 96 (92.3)                             | 8 ( 7.7)                              | 0.001   |
| Manufacturer(metal)   | 78 (75.7)                             | 25 (24.3)                             |         |
| Assembler(appliances) | 35 (70.0)                             | 15 (30.0)                             |         |
| Cashier               | 47 (77.0)                             | 14 (23.0)                             |         |
| Packer(cosmetics)     | 48 (69.6)                             | 21 (30.4)                             |         |
| Garbage collector     | 37 (88.1)                             | 5 (11.9)                              |         |
| VDT worker            | 51 (70.8)                             | 21 (29.2)                             |         |

**Table 5.** Odds ratio of musculoskeletal symptoms according to job classification

| Job classification     | Odds ratio* | 95% Confidence interval |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| Clerk                  | 1           | -                       |
| Manufacturer (metal)   | 3.11        | 1.066-9.068             |
| Assembler (appliances) | 5.63        | 1.692-18.752            |
| Cashier                | 5.11        | 1.196-21.859            |
| Packer (cosmetics)     | 7.32        | 1.938-27.676            |
| Garbage collector      | 1.87        | 0.255-13.789            |
| VDT worker             | 4.79        | 1.544-14.840            |

\*adjusted by age, marital status, sex, work load change, work duration, work time a day, job demand, decision latitude

the forearm-wrist)  
(Table 7).

**Table 6.** Musculoskeletal symptoms and Body region according to job classification

| Job classification \ Body region | Neck<br>N (%) | Shoulder**<br>N (%) | Back<br>N (%) | Arm/elbow*<br>N (%) | Wrist/finger**<br>N (%) | Knee<br>N (%) | Leg/foot<br>N (%) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Clerk (N=103)                    | 3 ( 2.9)      | 4 ( 3.8)            | 4 ( 3.8)      | 1 ( 1.0)            | 1 ( 1.0)                | 1 ( 1.0)      | 1 (1.0)           |
| Manufacturer (metal)<br>(N=104)  | 9 ( 8.7)      | 8 ( 7.8)            | 14 (13.6)     | 4 ( 3.9)            | 8 ( 7.8)                | 7 ( 6.8)      | 4 (3.9)           |
| Assembler (appliances)<br>(N=50) | 5 (10.0)      | 6 (12.0)            | 7 (14.0)      | 3 ( 6.0)            | 8 (16.0)                | 6 (12.0)      | 2 (4.0)           |
| Cashier (N=61)                   | 4 ( 6.6)      | 9 (14.8)            | 6 ( 9.8)      | 1 ( 1.6)            | 3 ( 4.9)                | 5 ( 8.2)      | 4 (6.6)           |
| Packer (cosmetics)<br>(N=69)     | 6 ( 8.7)      | 12 (17.4)           | 4 ( 5.8)      | 7 (10.1)            | 10 (14.5)               | 5 ( 7.2)      | 6 (8.7)           |
| Garbage collector<br>(N=42)      | 1 ( 2.4)      | 3 ( 7.1)            | 1 ( 2.4)      | 2 ( 4.8)            | 1 ( 2.4)                | 3 ( 7.1)      | 2 (4.8)           |
| VDT worker<br>(N=72)             | 7 ( 9.7)      | 15 (20.8)           | 6 ( 8.3)      | 1 ( 1.4)            | 8 (11.1)                | 4 ( 5.6)      | 4 (5.6)           |

\*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01 by Chi-square test

**Table 7.** Frequency of upper extremity musculoskeletal diseases by case definition

| Job classification \ Ds          | a | b | c | d | e | f | g | h | i |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Clerk (N=103)                    | 2 | 1 | 1 |   |   |   |   |   | 1 |
| Manufacturer (metal)<br>(N=104)  | 4 | 3 | 2 |   | 1 | 6 | 1 | 2 |   |
| Assembler (appliances)<br>(N=50) | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 |   | 5 |   | 2 |   |
| Cashier (N=61)                   | 3 | 2 | 1 |   | 1 | 2 |   |   |   |
| Packer (cosmetics)<br>(N=69)     | 3 | 3 | 2 |   |   | 8 | 1 | 1 |   |
| Garbage collector<br>(N=42)      | 1 | 1 | 1 |   |   | 1 |   |   |   |
| VDT worker<br>(N=72)             | 5 | 2 |   |   |   | 5 |   | 2 | 1 |

Ds: disease

a: radiating neck complaints

b: rotator cuff syndrome

c: epicondylitis

d: cubital tunnel syndrome

e: radial tunnel syndrome

f: tenosynovitis in the forearm-wrist

g: De Quevarian 's disease

h: carpal tunnel syndrome

I: Guyon 's canal syndrome



( , 1996). ( , 2002). (strain) 가 (Cannon , 1981; Silverstein , 1987) 가 (Knave , 1985; , 1989) (Bonger , 1993; Evanoff , 1994; (Ong , 1995; , 1996; WHO, 1987) NIOSH, 1997). (Kamwendo , 1991; Kvarnstrom , 1983; Linton , 1989; Linton , 1990) ( ) , 30 (2003) 가 (2003) , 1991; 1991; , 1995; , 1995; , 1996). 가 , 1991; , 1996)가 가 , 1991; , 1997; , 1997)

30 24.3% (13.6%), (8.7%), (7.8%), / 가 (healthy worker (7.8%), (6.8%), / (3.9%), / (3.9%) , 131 (Xiao , 2004) (38%), ( , 2002) 가 (25%), (20%), / (15%) ( , 1997; , 가 , 1999) 가 23.0%, (14.8%), (9.8%), (8.2%), (6.6%), / (6.6%), / 가 (4.9%), / (1.6%) . ( , 1~9 가 2000) 94.4%, (61.0%), (59.9%), (53.2%), / (36.7%), / (34.8%), / (41.6%) 가

VDT (2003) 39.2%, 36.2%,  
30.8%, 25.4%

VDT (2003) 89.7%,  
79.3%, 55.2%, / / 62.0%  
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( , 1997)  
( , 1996)  
가 31.6%,  
(51.2%), (56.1%), (23.5%),  
(31.3%) ( , 2000) 45.8%,  
(34.9%), / (31.3%), (30.1%), /  
(18%)  
가  
가 (Knave , 1985; Rossignol , 1987),  
30.4%,  
(17.4%), / (14.5%), / (10.1%), (Arndt, 1983).  
(8.7%), / (8.7%), (7.2%),  
(5.8%)  
11.9%, 7.1%,  
7.1%, / 4.9%, / 4.8%, 2.4%,  
2.4%, / 가 2.4%,  
. NIOSH  
(1987) “ 가 50 ,  
” 가 ( , 2002).  
( , 1992)가 , 66.7%  
가 (7.32), 가  
(5.63), (5.11), VDT  
(4.79), (3.11)  
VDT  
29.2%, 20.8%,  
11.1% 9.7%, 8.3%, / 1.4%  
가

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 1999 , ,  
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 (2002) , ,  
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 2002) 8 746  
 ( 501 (67.2%)  
 57.3% 가 , 11.2%, 6.1%  
 , OSHA 501 1)  
 , , 가 , (103 ), 2) (104 ), 3) 가  
 , , 가 , (50 ), 4) (61 ) 5)  
 , (BLS, (69 ) 6) (42 ) 7) VDT (72  
 1993). )

2001;11(1):85-91.

VDT

2003;15(2):140-9.

2001, 2001.

2002, 2002.

2003, 2003.

VDT

1991;24

(30.4%), 가 (30.0%), VDT

(29.2%), (24.3%),

(23.0%), (11.9%),

(7.7%)

( )

(7.32), 가

(5.63), (5.11), VDT

(4.79), (3.11)

1997;9(1):156-69.

2000;12(3):395-404.

2003;

15(4):373-87.

1989;1

(2):141-50.

(II) -

1995;7(2)

:320-31.

2003.

1999;11(3):385-92.

VDT

2000;12(1):48-58.

1991;24(3):305-13.

VDT

1995;28(2):433-49.

가

1996;8(3):570-7.

, 1997.

가

(I) -

( )

1995;7(2):306-19.

2000;39(1):1-7.

2002;41(3):120-30.

2001;13(3):220-31.

2002;

가

14(2):154-68.

1999;32(1):48-59.

가

2003;15(4):401-

가 2002;23(5):627-35.

10.

1999

1999;11(4):439-48.

1992;25(1):26-33.

가  
2001;11(1):56-69.

(Work Postures) (CTDs)  
1998;8(1):36-49.

가  
1999;11(3):407-14.

(VDT )  
1997;9(1):85-98.

2000;12(4):457-72.

2001;13(1):55-63.

VDT  
1998;10(4):463-75.

VDT  
1996;8(3):403-13.

VDT  
2003;42(2) :67-75.

1996;8(2):301-9.

가 . 2002, KOSHA CODE(H-28-2002).

. 2003, KOSHA CODE(H-30-2003).

가  
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