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Abstract

Selection of a High Risk Group and the Effectiveness of an Exercise Program on Musculoskeletal Symptoms in Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

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Objectives: This study was conducted to provide data for the establishment of a practical and the effective exercise program for managing the musculoskeletal symptoms of workers who are employed in small and medium sized enterprises.

Methods: The risk factors related to musculoskeletal disease management were chosen according to the relevant literatures, and were based on advise from experts on the Delphi method. Questionnaires on selected risk factors (with a 5-point Likert scale) were given to 785 subjects who worked in small and medium sized enterprises. The subjects were then classified in the risk group when they had the symptoms and recorded at least 3 points. From those subjects in the risk group, those who had both work-related factors and general characteristics factors (with an average of at least 3 points) were further classified as the high risk group. We performed a 12-week musculoskeletal exercise program for the low and high risk groups to analyze their changes in symptoms and complaints in order to estimate the effectiveness of the exercise program.

Results: Out of 785 subjects, 454(57.8%) were in the risk group of musculoskeletal diseases and 121(15.4%) were in the high risk group. According to multiple logistic regression analysis of the factors for the musculoskeletal symptoms in the low risk group, the significant risk factors were sex and personal disease related with musculoskeletal disease, while the risk factors in the high risk group were age, sex, and personal disease related with musculoskeletal disease. After the 12-week exercise program was performed by the low risk group, the number of musculoskeletal symptom complaints in the control group did not significantly changed, whereas for the intervention group, the number of musculoskeletal symptom complaints significantly declined for all parts of the body.

After the 12-week exercise program performed by the high risk group, the number of musculoskeletal symptom complaints in the control group was significantly enhanced for the arm and elbow parts. In the intervention group, the complaint rate for musculoskeletal symptoms significantly declined only for the low back.

Conclusion: The musculoskeletal symptoms were significantly improved by the exercise program in the low risk group, but not in the high risk group. It is suggested that control measures on administrative and/or work related factors, in addition to the exercise program should be considered simultaneously for the control of musculoskeletal symptoms in groups at high risk of musculoskeletal disease.

Key Words: Musculoskeletal disease, Symptoms, Work, Risk factors, High risk, Exercise

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(Putz-Anderson, 1988; Hales et al., 1994; , 2003).

가 (Erdil & Dickerson, 1997)

(Anderson, 1988).

, 1996; , 2003).

(ILO) 1960

1990 10

(Zenz et al., 1994; OSHA 1999), 1998

64% (OSHA, National Research Council, 1999; , 1999; , 2002; , 2003).

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90% (, 1996; , 2003), 30% (, 1995; , 1997)

8.9%(, 1998), 44.1%(, 1996)

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5 NIOSH (National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health) 167 57 , 166 64 . 12

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2003 3 1 7 31 . 6

1) , / / 가 , , / , / 5

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Chi-square

p 0.1

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3) 20 50
 가 488 (62.2%)
 570 (72.6%) 가
 528 (67.3%)

1 3 1 5
 25 639 (81.4%) , 가
 432 (55.0%) 가 438
 (55.8%)

4) 34 (4.3%) 가
 233 (29.7%)
 500 (63.7%)

10 435 (55.4%) 가
 8 가 442 (56.3%) 가
 464 (59.1%)

4
 12 가 405 (51.6%) , 8
 416 (53.0%) (Table 1).
 20

5. 2.

1) Delphi

Statistical Analysis System 8.01(SAS Institute Inc, 2002)

15 (,

785 454 (57.8%) 17.2%, 가
 3 24.0%
 3 121 66.4%,
 (15.4%) 785 331 77.7%
 (42.2%) 333 (42.4%) 81.4%, 80.2%
 121 (15.4%) (Table 3). 가
 3. 4.8%, 9.9%
 , 가
 31.8%, 34.7%
 가 가
 1) 60.7%, 76.9%
 20 27.6%, 30 24.3%, 40 10
 30.3%, 40 37.2%, 50 30.6% 54.6%, 58.7%
 가 20-40
 가 64.0%, 15.6%. 4.1%
 가 67.8% (Table 4).

Table 2. The priority of the factor for musculoskeletal symptom by the expert

Expert Factors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Score	Rank
Work posture	9	9	8	9	4	8	8	9	6	7	9	7	9	9	9	120	1
Work load	8	8	9	4	8	9	9	7	1	3	1	8	1	8	8	92	2
Work frequency	7	7	7	7	9	7	7	8	9	1		1		1	5	76	3
Work time	2	3		2	6	6	6	4	8	5	6		8	6	6	68	4
Symptom duration	6	4	5	8	3	3	4	5		4	8	2	5	5	1	63	5
Symptom frequency	5	5	4	1	5	4	3	6	5	8	7	5			3	61	6
Symptom severity	4	6	6	6	2	5	5	1		9			2	4		50	7
Stress			2	5	1	1	1	3	7	6	5					31	8
House work	1	1	1					2	4	2		9	6			26	9
MSRA	3					2			2		2	4	7	2	2	24	10
BMI									3			3		7	7	20	11
MSRPD											3	6	4	3		16	12
Rest time		2		3	7						4					16	12
Work duration			3				2									5	14
MSRH													3		4	7	15

MSRA: Musculoskeletal related accident, BMI: Body mass index

MSRPD: Musculoskeletal related personal disease, MSRH: Musculoskeletal related hobby

(The first rank is assigned to 9 score, and the ninth rank is assigned to 1 score)

Table 3. Distribution of low risk group and high risk group in the subjects

(n=785)

Groups	Definition	Number of subjects	%
Normal group	No symptom		
	The score of symptom related factors is lower than 2 in 5 point scale	331	42.2
Low risk group	The score of any factor among symptom related factors is higher than 3 point	333	42.4
High risk group	Average scores of both work related factors and general characteristics are higher than 3 point respectively	121	15.4

2) 가
 5.96 (95% CI; 2.19-16.27)
 1.40 (95% CI; 1.01-1.94)
 2.04 (95% CI; 1.27-3.29)
 2.73 (95% CI; 1.06-7.08)
 (Table 5).
 가 10 20
 0.45 (95% CI; 0.21-0.97)
 (Table 6).

3) 4.
 20
 40 2.55 (95% CI; 1.42-4.57), 50 1)
 2.10 (95% CI; 1.15-3.82)
 5.22 (95% CI; 3.33-8.19)
 0.45 (95% CI; 0.26-0.78), 0.09 (95% CI; 0.03-0.29)
 0.52 (95% CI; 0.32-0.84)
 p 0.1
 가 , , , , 2.16
 (95% CI; 1.41-3.31)
 2.85 (95% CI; 1.07-

Table 4. Comparison of related factors between the low risk group and high risk group (n=%)

Factors	Category	Low risk group (n=333)	High risk group (n=121)	P-value
Age/years	20~29	92 (27.6)	23 (19.0)	0.001
	30~39	81 (24.3)	16 (13.2)	
	40~49	101 (30.3)	45 (37.2)	
	50~	59 (17.7)	37 (30.6)	
Sex	Male	213 (64.0)	39 (32.2)	0.001
	Female	120 (36.0)	82 (67.8)	
Education	Below the elementary school	35 (10.5)	29 (24.0)	0.001
	Middle and high school	239 (71.8)	88 (72.7)	
	Above the college	59 (17.2)	4 (3.3)	
Marital status	Married	221 (66.4)	94 (77.7)	0.021
	Single	112 (33.6)	27 (22.3)	
BMI	<25	271 (81.4)	97 (80.2)	0.770
	≥ 25	62 (18.6)	24 (19.8)	
MSRPD	No	317 (95.2)	109 (90.1)	0.045
	Yes	16 (4.8)	12 (9.9)	
MSRA	No	227 (68.2)	79 (65.3)	0.563
	Yes	106 (31.8)	42 (34.7)	
MSRH	No	131 (39.3)	28 (23.1)	0.001
	Yes	202 (60.7)	93 (76.9)	
Work duration /years	~9	182 (54.6)	71 (58.7)	0.299
	10~20	109 (32.7)	41 (33.9)	
	21~	42 (12.6)	9 (7.4)	
Rest time(min)/day	5~20	175 (52.6)	77 (63.7)	0.001
	21~40	52 (15.6)	5 (4.1)	
	41~	106 (31.8)	39 (32.2)	

BMI: Body mass index, MSRPD: Musculoskeletal related personal disease
 MSRA: Musculoskeletal related accident, MSRH: Musculoskeletal related hobby

7.57) 4.23 (95% CI; 1.22-14.67)
가 2.85 4 가 4
(95% CI; 1.07-7.57) , 6.46 (95% CI; 2.27-18.40)
가 가 1.49 (Table 8).
(95% CI; 1.04-2.13) (Table 7).
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p 0.1 12
가 , , , 가 , , ,
40 2.93 (95% 1) 12
CI; 1.25-6.88) , 가
2.81 (95% CI; 1.48-5.31) . 가 333 167 166
7.67 (95% CI; 12
3.32-17.74) Table 9
가

Table 5. Odds ratio of related factors for musculoskeletal symptoms in the low risk groups by logistic regression

Factors	Category	Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)
Age/years	20~29	1.00
	30~39	1.09 (0.72~1.66)
	40~49	1.43 (0.95~2.16)
	50~	0.84 (0.54~1.30)
Sex	Male	1.00
	Female	1.40 (1.01~1.94)*
Education	Below the elementary school	1.00
	Middle and high school	1.01 (0.62~1.66)
	Above the college	1.17 (0.64~2.12)
Marital status	Married	1.00
	Single	0.92 (0.66~1.26)
BMI	<25	1.00
	≥25	1.03 (0.70~1.53)
MSRPD	No	1.00
	Yes	2.73 (1.06~7.08)*
MSRA	No	1.00
	Yes	1.35 (0.96~1.89)
MSRH	Yes	1.00
	No	0.95 (0.69~1.29)
Work duration/years	~9	1.00
	10~20	1.11 (0.79~1.57)
	21~	0.82 (0.52~1.30)
Rest time(min)/day	41~	1.00
	5~20	1.28 (0.92~1.79)
	21~40	1.56 (0.96~2.53)

BMI: Body mass index, MSRPD: Musculoskeletal related personal disease

MSRA: Musculoskeletal related accident, MSRH: Musculoskeletal related hobby

*P<0.05 by chi-square test

가
 40.3% 32.5%, 가 59.0% 45.2%,
 / 가 33.2% 18.1%, 가 1
 42.2% 28.9%, 가 58.4% 40.4%,
 가 43.4% 30.7% NIOSH(1993)
 (p<0.05). (1998)
 2) 12 NIOSH
 131 57 64 10
 12
 Table 10
 가 28.1%
 42.1% 가
 가 65.6% 48.4% 가
 (p<0.01). (

Table 6. Odds ratio of related factors for musculoskeletal symptoms in the high risk groups by logistic regression

Factors	Category	Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)
Age/years	20~29	1.00
	30~39	0.86 (0.43~1.74)
	40~49	2.55 (1.42~4.57)*
	50~	2.10 (1.15~3.82)*
Sex	Male	1.00
	Female	5.22 (3.33~8.19)*
Education	Below the elementary school	1.00
	Middle and high school	0.45 (0.26~0.78)*
	Above the college	0.09 (0.03~0.29)*
Marital status	Married	1.00
	Single	0.52 (0.32~0.84)*
BMI	<25	1.00
	≥25	1.12 (0.66~1.89)
MSRPD	No	1.00
	Yes	5.96 (2.19~16.27)*
MSRA	No	1.00
	Yes	1.54 (0.98~2.41)
MSRH	Yes	1.00
	No	2.04 (1.27~3.29)*
Work duration/years	~	1.00
	10~20	1.07 (0.68~1.69)
	21	0.45 (0.21~0.97)**
Rest time (min)/day	41~	1.00
	5~20	1.53 (0.98~2.40)
	21~40	0.41 (0.15~1.10)

BMI: Body mass index, MSRPD: Musculoskeletal related personal disease
 MSRA: Musculoskeletal related accident, MSRH: Musculoskeletal related hobby
 * P<0.01 by chi-square test, ** P<0.05 by chi-square test

, 1994; , 1998; , 2003), 가 1
 (Karhu et al., 1977; 가 (, 1998; , 2001)
 Lifshitz & Armstrong, 1986; McAtemney & 가 가
 Corleet, 1993; ANSI, 1996; , 1997; .
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 2001; , 2001; , 2003), 9
 (Putz-Anderson,) 8 (.
 1988) 15 785 454 (57.8%) .
 가 9 (2001)
 (, , ,) 63.6%
 (, 가) 121 15.4% .

Table 7. Odds ratio of related factors for musculoskeletal symptoms in the low risk groups by multiple logistic regression

Factors	Category	Odds ratio (95% confidence interval)
Age/years	20~29	1.00
	30~39	1.07 (0.67~1.73)
	40~49	1.26 (0.75~2.11)
	50~	0.67 (0.37~1.23)
Sex	Male	1.00
	Female	2.16 (1.41~3.31)*
House work	No	1.00
	Yes	2.85 (1.07~7.57)*
Stress	Mild	1.00
	Moderate	1.25 (0.81~2.12)
	Severe	1.17 (0.47~3.07)
MSRPD	No	1.00
	Yes	2.85 (1.07~7.57)*
MSRA	No	1.00
	Yes	1.49 (1.04~2.13)*
Work duration/years	~9	1.00
	10~20	1.24 (0.79~1.94)
	21~	0.10 (0.54~1.85)
Work time/hours	~8	1.00
	9~11	1.26 (0.65~2.47)
	12~	1.15 (0.44~3.04)
Work frequency/hours	<4	1.00
	4	0.78 (0.51~1.19)
Rest time(min)/day	40~	1.00
	5~20	1.42 (0.98~2.05)
	21~40	1.66 (0.51~1.19)

MSRPD: Musculoskeletal related personal disease, MSRA: Musculoskeletal related accident

* P<0.01 by chi-square test

, 1992)

가

Table 9. Change in musculoskeletal symptom complaint rate by part of body in low risk groups compared with baseline

Part of body	Symptom After Before	Control group		Total (n=167)	P-value	Intervention group		Total (n=166)	P-value
		Symptom (-)	Symptom (+)			Symptom (-)	Symptom (+)		
Neck	Symptom (-)	91 (54.5)	14 (8.4)	105 (62.9)	0.182	88 (53.1)	11 (6.6)	99 (59.7)	0.028
	Symptom (+)	22 (13.2)	40 (23.9)	62 (37.1)		24 (14.4)	43 (25.9)	67 (40.3)	
	Total	113 (67.7)	54 (32.3)			112 (67.5)	54 (32.5)		
Shoulder	Symptom (-)	54 (32.3)	19 (11.4)	73 (43.7)	0.537	54 (32.5)	14 (8.5)	68 (41.0)	0.001
	Symptom (+)	23 (13.8)	71 (42.5)	94 (56.3)		37 (22.3)	61 (36.7)	98 (59.0)	
	Total	77 (46.1)	90 (53.9)			91 (54.8)	75 (45.2)		
Arm/elbow	Symptom (-)	122 (73.0)	11 (6.6)	133 (79.6)	0.433	103 (62.0)	8 (4.8)	111 (66.8)	0.001
	Symptom (+)	15 (9.0)	19 (11.4)	34 (20.4)		33 (19.9)	22 (13.3)	55 (33.2)	
	Total	137 (82.0)	30 (18.0)			136 (81.9)	30 (18.1)		
Hand/wrist	Symptom (-)	93 (55.7)	13 (7.8)	106 (63.5)	0.170	88 (53.0)	8 (4.8)	96 (57.8)	0.001
	Symptom (+)	21 (12.6)	40 (23.9)	61 (36.5)		30 (18.1)	40 (24.1)	70 (42.2)	
	Total	114 (68.3)	53 (31.7)			118 (71.1)	48 (28.9)		
Low back	Symptom (-)	71 (42.5)	12 (7.2)	83 (49.7)	0.086	56 (33.7)	13 (7.8)	69 (41.5)	0.001
	Symptom (+)	22 (13.2)	62 (37.1)	84 (50.3)		43 (25.9)	54 (32.5)	97 (58.4)	
	Total	93 (55.7)	74 (44.3)			99 (59.6)	67 (40.4)		
Leg/foot	Symptom (-)	71 (42.5)	23 (13.8)	94 (56.3)	0.543	80 (48.2)	14 (8.4)	94 (56.6)	0.001
	Symptom (+)	19 (11.4)	54 (32.3)	73 (43.7)		35 (21.1)	37 (22.3)	72 (43.4)	
	Total	90 (53.9)	77 (46.1)			115 (69.3)	51 (30.7)		

Table 10. Change in musculoskeletal complaint rate by part of body in high risk groups compared with baseline

Part of body	Symptom After Before	Control group		Total (n=57)	P-value	Intervention group		Total (n=64)	P-value
		Symptom (-)	Symptom (+)			Symptom (-)	Symptom (+)		
Neck	Symptom (-)	25 (43.9)	5 (8.8)	30 (52.7)	1.000	25 (39.1)	5 (7.8)	30 (46.9)	0.405
	Symptom (+)	5 (8.8)	22 (38.6)	27 (47.4)		8 (12.5)	26 (40.6)	34 (53.1)	
	Total	30 (52.6)	27 (47.4)			33 (51.6)	31 (48.4)		
Shoulder	Symptom (-)	12 (21.1)	6 (10.5)	18 (31.6)	0.317	12 (18.8)	7 (10.9)	19 (29.7)	0.088
	Symptom (+)	3 (5.2)	36 (63.2)	39 (68.4)		15 (23.4)	30 (46.9)	45 (70.3)	
	Total	15 (26.3)	42 (73.7)			27 (42.2)	37 (57.8)		
Arm/elbow	Symptom (-)	30 (52.6)	11 (19.3)	41 (71.9)	0.032	36 (56.3)	7 (10.9)	43 (67.2)	0.796
	Symptom (+)	3 (5.3)	13 (22.8)	16 (28.1)		8 (12.5)	13 (20.3)	21 (32.8)	
	Total	33 (57.9)	24 (42.1)			44 (67.8)	20 (31.2)		
Hand/wrist	Symptom (-)	26 (45.6)	4 (7.0)	30 (52.6)	0.366	24 (37.5)	4 (6.3)	28 (43.8)	0.248
	Symptom (+)	7 (12.3)	20 (35.1)	27 (47.4)		8 (12.5)	28 (43.7)	36 (56.2)	
	Total	33 (57.9)	24 (42.1)			32 (50.0)	32 (50.0)		
Low back	Symptom (-)	26 (45.6)	3 (5.3)	29 (50.9)	0.317	19 (29.7)	3 (4.7)	22 (34.4)	0.007
	Symptom (+)	6 (10.5)	22 (38.6)	28 (49.1)		14 (21.9)	28 (43.7)	42 (65.6)	
	Total	32 (56.1)	25 (43.9)			33 (51.6)	31 (48.4)		
Leg/foot	Symptom (-)	10 (17.5)	13 (22.8)	23 (40.3)	0.276	13 (20.3)	8 (12.5)	21(32.8)	0.072
	Symptom (+)	11 (19.3)	23 (40.4)	34 (59.7)		17 (26.6)	26 (40.6)	43(67.2)	
	Total	21 (36.8)	36 (63.2)			30 (46.9)	34 (53.1)		

가 :
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 가 : 785 ,
 454 (57.8%) 121 (15.4%)

Delphi 가
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