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Abstract

Importance of Job Demands, Career Development, Role Pressure, and Economic-Issue-Related Job Stress as Risk Factors for Work Related Musculoskeletal Disorders in Electronics Assembly Line Workers

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Objectives: To evaluate the association of upper extremity musculoskeletal disorders with job demand-control and effort-reward related job stress.

Methods: Questionnaires concerning symptoms, psychosocial factors and work conditions were completed by 436 workers from a refrigerator assembly line, mobile phone assembly line, and an office, musculoskeletal conditions of the upper extremities were defined by the frequency, duration, and intensity of symptoms. A walk-through survey was performed to evaluate various physical work factors. Data were analyzed with the use of logistic regression.

Results: A total of 382 workers completed the survey, for whom neck and shoulder symptoms were the most frequently reported, followed by finger and wrist, and then elbow symptoms. Both awkward working posture and forceful exertion were associated with an increase in shoulder/neck and finger/wrist symptoms. In addition, job stress factors such as monotony, low job clarity, low job control, low promotion prospect, economic issues, and retirement pressures were associated with increased neck/shoulder, elbow, and finger/wrist conditions. Women were more likely to report symptoms, and the association between musculoskeletal conditions and job stress factors was stronger in female assembly line workers and office workers than in male assembly line workers.

Conclusions: The results suggest that musculoskeletal conditions of the upper extremities are associated with not only physical work factors but also job stress factors. In particular, economic issues and career development factors are important influences on workers in Korea.

Key Words: Automation, Developing country, Musculoskeletal disease, Psychosocial factor, Stress.

Rosenstock, 1994; NIOSH, 1997).

(NIOSH,

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1997).

Karasek

(high strain)

(Evanoff Rosenstock, 1994).

(, 1996; , 1998;

, 1999; , 2000),

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SCL-90R

(, 1995),

가, (extrasystole) 가,

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sive workload),

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control),

(low job clarity),

Rosenstock, 1994).

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1990; Bernard , 1994; Ekberg , 1994;

Hales , 1994; Hoekstra , 1994; Houtman

, 1994).

(Ivacevich Matteson, 1986). 1990

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‘ Job Demand-Control Model(JD-C model)’ 1

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(effort) (reward)

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(Bosma , 1998; Siegrist

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Matteson

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112

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가 68.4%, 80.2%

가 72.4%,

가 74.7%

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(5),

가 88.9 %, kappa

(8),

(6),

0.723(95% CI=0.469-0.977)

가

(14),

(12)

13.6%

(Table 2).

ratio) (odds 가 (13.9% 11.9%), 가 (Table 2, 3). 10 (36.4%) 5 (22.2%) (Table 2, 3). SAS(version 6.12) (principal component method) (eigenvalue)가 1 11 가 0.4 11 112 , 237 , 86 436 가 25 53 382 (=87.6%) 가 (Table 1). (Table 4). 13.9%, 4.8%, 가 , , 7.2% , (Table 36.4%, 11.4%, 4).

Table 1. General characteristics of study subjects No.(percent)

Ages	Assembly line workers(n=296)		Office line workers (n=86)		Total	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
~20	-	2 (2.3)	-	2 (7.4)	-	4 (3.5)
20~29	10 (4.8)	52 (59.1)	21 (35.6)	13 (48.2)	31 (11.6)	65 (56.5)
30~39	80 (38.5)	18 (20.5)	23 (39.0)	12 (44.4)	103 (38.6)	30 (26.1)
40~49	102 (49.0)	15 (17.0)	14 (23.7)	-	116 (43.4)	15 (13.0)
50+	16 (7.7)	1 (1.1)	1 (1.7)	-	17 (6.4)	1 (0.9)
Total	208 (100.0)	88 (100.0)	59 (100.0)	27 (100.0)	267 (100.0)	115 (100.0)

Table 2. Distribution of musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities by age and sex among assembly line workers

age	Male (n=208)						Female (n=88)					
	Neck and shoulder area		Elbow area		Finger and wrist area		Neck and shoulder area		Elbow area		Finger and wrist area	
	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition
~20	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (2.3)	-	2 (2.3)	-	2 (2.3)	-
20~29	8 (3.9)	2 (1.0)	10 (4.8)	-	9 (4.3)	1 (0.5)	36 (40.9)	16 (18.2)	49 (55.7)	3 (3.4)	46 (52.3)	6 (6.8)
30~39	69 (33.2)	11 (5.2)	76 (36.5)	4 (1.9)	74 (35.6)	6 (2.9)	10 (11.4)	8 (9.1)	14 (15.9)	4 (4.6)	15 (17.1)	3 (3.4)
40~49	88 (42.3)	14 (6.7)	97 (46.6)	5 (2.4)	95 (45.7)	7 (3.3)	7 (7.9)	8 (9.1)	12 (13.6)	3 (3.4)	12 (13.6)	3 (3.4)
50+	14 (6.7)	2 (1.0)	15 (7.2)	1 (0.5)	15 (7.2)	1 (0.5)	1 (1.1)	-	1 (1.1)	-	1 (1.1)	-
Total	179 (86.1)	29 (13.9)	198 (95.2)	10 (4.8)	193 (92.8)	15 (7.2)	56 (63.6)	32 (36.4)	78 (88.6)	10 (11.4)	76 (86.4)	12 (13.6)

Table 3. Distribution of musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities by age and sex among office workers

age	Male (n=208)						Female (n=88)					
	Neck and shoulder area		Elbow area		Finger and wrist area		Neck and shoulder area		Elbow area		Finger and wrist area	
	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition	Normal	Abnormal condition
~20	-	-	-	-	-	-	2 (7.4)	-	2 (7.4)	-	2 (7.4)	-
20~29	19 (32.2)	2 (3.4)	21 (35.6)	-	21 (35.6)	-	10 (37.1)	3 (11.1)	12 (44.5)	1 (3.7)	11 (44.5)	2 (7.4)
30~39	20 (33.9)	3 (5.1)	23 (39.0)	-	23 (39.0)	-	9 (33.3)	3 (11.1)	11 (40.7)	1 (3.7)	11 (40.7)	2 (7.4)
40~49	12 (20.3)	2 (3.4)	14 (23.7)	-	13 (22.0)	1 (1.7)	-	-	-	-	-	-
50+	1 (1.7)	-	1 (1.7)	-	1 (1.7)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	52 (88.1)	7 (11.9)	59 (100.0)	-	58 (98.3)	1 (1.7)	21 (77.8)	6 (22.2)	25 (92.6)	2 (7.4)	23 (85.2)	4 (14.8)

Table 4. Classification of items on job stress and internal consistency of each psychosocial variables

Job stress factors	Psychosocial variables	No. of items	Chronbach's alpha coefficient of each subjects		
			Male assembly line workers	Female assembly line workers	Office workers
Job/task demands	Low job clarity	2	0.71	0.84	0.74
	Intensive workload	3	0.64	0.76	0.71
	Low job control	2	0.52	0.82	0.74
	Monotonous work	2	0.43	0.74	0.75
Organizational factors	Low clarity of work organization	2	0.67	0.62	0.64
	Little interaction with supervisors	2	0.52	0.72	0.51
	Little interaction with co-workers	4	0.77	0.85	0.87
Career issues	Discrimination	2	0.72	0.71	0.68
	Discrimination by sex	3	0.82	0.84	0.77
	Low promotion prospect	2	0.49	0.72	0.91
	Retirement pressures	1	ss*	ss*	ss*
Economic issues	Low salary level	2	0.62	0.81	0.54
	Economic difficulty	1	ss*	ss*	ss*
Role demands	Role demands	2	0.80	0.82	0.63

* ss:single scale.

가 . OR=1.78; 95% CI=1.08-4.37),
 , (OR=1.70; 95% CI=1.13-3.78,
 33 , 가 OR=1.32; 95% CI=1.18-2.53)
 28 0.6
 (Table 4). 1.44(95% CI=0.89-2.62),
 11 가 1.47(95% CI=0.93-2.08) OR
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 14 1.38(95% CI=0.94-2.01) OR (Table
 5). (OR=3.22;
 95% CI=1.01-10.17)가
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 가 (OR=2.50;
 (OR=6.34; 95% CI=1.35-23.91) 가 95% CI=1.21-5.14, 가 OR=4.67;
 (OR=4.16; 95% CI=1.01-17.3), 95% CI=1.69-12.92), (
 가 (OR=7.41; 95% CI=1.54-49.97) OR=1.84; 95% CI=1.04-3.26),
 (Table 5). (OR=2.80; 95% CI=1.10-5.47,
 (가 OR=3.28; 95% CI=1.34-8.05),
 OR=1.67; 95% CI=1.14-2.49, 가 (

Table 5. Logistic regression analysis of musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities of male assembly line workers

	Risk factors	Odds ratio	95 % C.I.
Neck and shoulder area	Work posture	6.34	1.35 ~ 23.91
	Monotonous work	1.67	1.14 ~ 2.49
	Promotion difficulty	1.38	0.94 ~ 2.01
Elbow area	Low job clarity	1.70	1.13 ~ 3.78
	Monotonous work	1.78	1.08 ~ 4.37
	Economic difficulty	1.44	0.89 ~ 2.62
Finger and wrist area	Work posture	4.16	1.01 ~ 17.3
	Force	7.41	1.54 ~ 49.97
	Economic difficulty	1.47	0.93 ~ 2.08
	Low job clarity	1.32	1.18 ~ 2.53

Table 6. Logistic regression analysis of musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities of female assembly line workers

	Risk factors	Odds ratio	95 % C.I.
Neck and shoulder area	Work posture	3.22	1.01 ~ 10.17
	Ages(10 years)	3.85	1.42 ~ 10.44
	Monotonous work	1.84	1.04 ~ 3.26
	Role demands	2.80	1.27 ~ 6.17
	Retirement pressures	2.46	1.10 ~ 5.47
	Type A personality	2.24	1.14 ~ 4.40
	Working durations(5 years)	2.07	0.66 ~ 6.50
Elbow area	Working durations(5 years)	3.06	0.89 ~ 10.50
	Low job control	2.50	1.21 ~ 5.14
	Retirement pressures	1.46	0.87 ~ 2.78
Finger and wrist area	Ages(10 years)	2.81	0.97 ~ 8.11
	Low job control	4.67	1.69 ~ 12.92
	Retirement pressures	3.28	1.34 ~ 8.05

OR=2.80; 95% CI=1.27-6.17)

(OR=2.63; 95% CI=1.05-6.52)

(Table 6).

Type A (OR=2.24; 2.53(95% CI=0.78-6.50) OR

95% CI=1.14-4.40)

(Table 7).

(Table 6).

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CI=1.08-6.50) 가 ,

(OR=3.00; 95% CI=1.06-8.50),

Table 7. Logistic regression analysis of musculoskeletal disorders of the upper extremities of office workers

	Risk factors	Odds ratio	95 % C.I.
Neck and shoulder area	Working time with keyboard (3 hours per day)	2.26	1.08 ~ 6.50
	Low job clarity	3.00	1.06 ~ 8.50
	Low clarity of work organization	2.63	1.05 ~ 6.52
	Discrimination by sex	2.53	0.78 ~ 6.50

(Table 7).

(Table 5, 6, 7).

(NIOSH, 1997).

6, 7).

(Table 5, 6, 7).

가 1.5 4.8
(Ekberg, 1994; Holmstrom, 1992;
Milerad Ekenvall, 1990; Tola, 1988;
Viikiari-Juntura, 1991).

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(Table 5, 6, 7).

(OR)가 2.36 (95% CI=1.11-6.09)

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95% 1.44(95% CI=0.89-2.62), 1.47(95% CI=0.93-2.98) (Table

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‘ Job demand-control model(JD-C model) ’

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1994).

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‘ Effort-Reward Imbalance ’

가 (, 2000).

12 가

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(Siegrist 1996),

(OR=2.12) 가

(, 1997).

(Bosma , 1998).

(Karasek , 1987; Theorell , 1991; Bernard , 1994; Hales , 1994; Hautman , 1994), (Karasek

type A

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, 1987; Ryan Bampton, 1988; Hopkins, 1990; Ekberg , 1994; Hales , 1994),

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1992),

(Karasek , 1987; Ekberg , 1994; Hales , 1994; Hautman , 1994)

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1997. 500 (1997. VDT 1998;10(4):463-75. VDT 1996;8(3):403-13. 1992. 가 1997;9(4):579-88.
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