

Work-Related Psychosocial Factors and the Risk of Musculoskeletal Disorders , Taipei Medical University

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摘要

The existence of a risk of musculoskeletal disorders work-related of the upper extremity (UEWMSDs) in the textile industry, specifically in particular working phases as spinning, appears today controversial. The upper limb disorders, sometimes described, have not a location ever plausible with the level of the biomechanical overload, as when carpal tunnel syndromes are signalled during activities in which the shoulder is the only segment eventually interested. Moreover these findings are shown in workers appointed at tasks or actions not clearly identified at risk. For example the spinning activity, that requires the movement of shuttles of modest weight, sometimes on levels above the shoulder line, is organized with cyclical cadences sometimes as repetitive tasks concentrated in a short period, sometimes in longer during the entire shift. Distribution and number of the actions, would however allow a sufficient biomechanical recovery. The identification of the single technical action may result difficult, due to interindividual variability of actions, of their speed and complexity. Furthermore the other possible activities, alternate with specific spinning activities, can require strength or not correct posture even if they may have short duration. In this paper we present and discuss the results of the ergonomic survey for risk assessment of musculoskeletal disorders work-related of the upper limb. These analysis have been carried out in two textile plants, in which some cases of disorders of the upper limb in workers employed in spinning activities have been described by occupational health physicians. In addition to assessment of possible risk for UEWMSDs in spinning activities, we founded the capability of usual methods for ergonomic analysis to adequately examine work situations like spinning, in which the hazardous actions are diluted over the entire shift or concentrate in a short period and in which there is a specific biomechanically overloaded segment i.e. the shoulder. Finally attention

was paid to evaluate psychosocial factors which appear to be important when biomechanical factors are low-lying.