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**PERCEIVED WORK-RELATED STRESS AND PAIN PREVALENCE: RESULTS FROM THE ITALIAN CUPID STUDY**

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10.1136/oemed-2011-100382.219

**Objectives** To assess the importance of work-related stress among recognised risk factors in causing musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs).

**Methods** The CUPID standardised questionnaire was administered to 518 nurses employed in a large University Hospital in Varese (Italy) to collect MSK disorders in last month and related work-absence. We also collected self-perceived work-related stress through the two most internationally validate tools: the Job-Content and the Effort-Reward Imbalance questionnaires (ERI-Q and JC-Q respectively). Somatising tendency and Overcommitment were also investigated. Multivariate logistic regression, stratified by physical workload, was used to assess the association between outcomes and risk factors adjusted for age and sex.

**Results** Of the 410 collected questionnaire (participation rate=79%), low-back pain was reported by 50%, neck pain by 47% and shoulder pain by 33%. The two stress questionnaires showed high inter-correlation, with ERI resulting with a higher internal consistency. Considering pain prevalence, after controlling for age and sex, ERI-Q resulted associated to low-back and neck in the group who declared no exposure to heavy lifting (OR=1.48 IC 95%:1.11–1.99 and OR=1.22 IC 95%:1.04–1.44 respectively). JC-Q was associated only to a higher prevalence of shoulder pain in both groups (OR=1.91 IC 95%=1.02–3.59 among not exposed and OR=3.16 IC 95%=1.24–8.06 among exposed). Somatising tendency was associated to pain prevalence in all investigated districts, with higher ORs seen among patients not exposed to physical workload.

**Conclusions** Psychosocial factors such as perceived stress and somatising tendency resulted to be an important risk factor for MSD, besides to the already established ones. Results of 1-year follow-up will be also presented.