of 2 scales were compared in 4 groups of occupational and 3 groups of leisure time PhA. The differences in means were tested by significance level ($p < .05$). The statistical software SPSS 13.0 for Windows was used in the statistical analysis.

**Results** The prevalence of PD among seafarers was 9.3%, weak SOC 24.2%. Spearman’s correlation between SOC and PD was 0.211 ($p < 0.001$). SOC was correlated with occupational (Spearman’s correlation 0.108 ($p < 0.05$) and leisure time (Spearman’s correlation 0.114 ($p < 0.05$)) PhA. SOC was weaker in the heavy occupational PhA group and showed no difference between leisure time PhA groups. The mean values of the GHQ-12 scale showed no differences in the occupational and leisure time PhA groups.

**Conclusions** Psychological distress was not more prevalent among seafarers as compared to the investigations among other occupations in Italy, UK, the Netherlands and Sweden. Sense of coherence among seafarers was weaker in the heavy occupational physical activity group, confirming the findings in the other investigations (weaker SOC in lower socioeconomic status groups).

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**Poster Presentation**

**0338 ABSENTEEISM FOR MEDICAL REASON IN HOSPITAL SURROUNDINGS**

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**Objectives** Our work aims to:
- assess occupational disability for medical reasons in hospitals across the entire work stopsages substantiated by a medical certificate,
- to identify the reasons
- and describe the causes and medical certificates responsible for this phenomenon.

**Method** It is a descriptive epidemiological study on the whole of the medical absences reported by employees between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012 in two hospitals: CHU and EHS Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Sidi-Bel-Abbes.

Support for the survey is a questionnaire completed by the doctor, it collects informations about: individual characteristics, socio-professional characteristics, and information on the declared absence (place of occurrence, the date of delivery to the employer, the type of certificate,...)

- Medical causes listed according to the International Classification of Diseases (CIM 10).

**Results** The study population represents a workforce of 2884 employees and includes the entire staff of the CHU and EHS Obstetrics and Gynaecology of Sidi-Bel-Abbes.

We recorded 331 medical certificates off work reported by our study population. However we objectified about 3/4 of the certificates are initial certificates and 72% that are issued by the public sector.

The rate of medical absenteeism in the hospital surroundings is estimated at 7.68% with a predominance of medical absences related to illness (98%) against only 2% for those related to accidents with a male predominance (5%) containing 1% for females.

**Conclusions** Our results can be used in a preventive perspective to improve the professional environment and therefore reduce the incidence of medical absenteeism.