problems of vision, impairments of hearing, and disorders of balance may all carry a moderately increased risk of occupational injury. The OR for consulting with disorder of balance (including 336 with impaired hearing and 482 with non-acute otitis media, and disorders of balance, using conditional logistic regression.

Results In all, 173 subjects had had an eye problem before the date of injury consultation (index date), 793 an ear problem (including 336 with impaired hearing and 482 with non-acute otitis media), and 266 a disorder of balance. No associations were found with specific eye diseases or perforation of the ear drum, but odds ratios (ORs) were moderately elevated for eye and ear problems more generally, and higher still in relation to blindness or partial sight (OR 1.90) and non-acute otitis media (OR 2.03). The OR for consulting with disorder of balance within the 12 months immediately preceding injury consultation was 1.81 (95% CI 1.03–3.17).

Conclusions Problems of vision, impairments of hearing, and disorders of balance may all carry a moderately increased risk of occupational injury.

Objectives To assess the role of sensory impairments and disorders of balance in occupational injury.

Method The Clinical Practice Research Datalink records all medical consultations, referrals and diagnoses in primary care for 6% of the British population. Using this register we identified 1348 working-aged patients who had consulted medical services over a 20-year period for workplace injury (cases) and 6652 matched controls. Risks were assessed in relation to visual impairment, common eye diseases, hearing loss, perforated ear drum, non-acute otitis media, and disorders of balance, using conditional logistic regression.

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Conclusions Problems of vision, impairments of hearing, and disorders of balance may all carry a moderately increased risk of occupational injury.

Objectives To assess the relation between Dupuytren’s contracture and occupational risk factors such as handling loads and kneeling.

Method We mailed a questionnaire to 21,017 subjects of working age, chosen randomly from the age-sex registers of 34 general practices in Great Britain and to 993 subjects randomly selected from military pay records. We asked about occupational exposure to 39 sources of HTV and about fixed flexion contraction of the little or ring finger. Analysis focused on men at work differing age, chosen randomly from the age-sex registers of 34 general practices in Great Britain and to 993 subjects randomly selected from military pay records. We asked about occupational exposure to 39 sources of HTV and about fixed flexion contraction of the little or ring finger. Analysis focused on men at work.

Results A total of 1,469 men with a history of Dupuytren’s contracture and 4,865 eligible men, including 72 men with a history of Dupuytren’s contracture, were included in the analysis. Among the restricted population, 2,287 with occupational exposure to HTV, and 409 with A(8) >2.8 ms⁻² in the past week. Risks were assessed in relation to visual impairment, common eye diseases, hearing loss, perforated ear drum, non-acute otitis media, and disorders of balance, using conditional logistic regression.

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