The development of practical recommendations for shift work, the definition of duration and intensity of night shift rotation and shift schedules significance, taking into account the individual characteristics of workers (for example, the chronotype), requires further studies, as well as the issue of potential carcinogenic risk of shift work.

SHIFT WORK AND WORKPLACE VIOLENCE AGAINST HEALTHCARE WORKERS IN PSYCHIATRIC WARDS: A CASE-CONTROL STUDY

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Introduction Workplace violence (WPV) towards healthcare workers (HCWs) employed in psychiatric wards (PWs) represents a concern for healthcare organisations, globally. To date there is a lack of scientific data about the relationship between work-shifts and the occurrence of WPV against PW HCWs. The aim of the present study was to investigate the relationship between work shift schedules and WPV among registered nurses (RNs) working on non-traditional shifts, including nights and 12 hour shifts.

Methods The authors conducted a cross-sectional nested case-control analysis of data regarding the episodes of WPV perpetrated by patients or their relatives against RNs employed in two PWs, in the period between January–December 2016.

Results The one-year incidence of WPV was 31.50 per 100 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) positions. Cumulative nightshifts were significant for 3 or more nightshifts compared to working less than 3 nightshifts during the 7 days prior to the occurrence of WPV; additionally, RNs working 9 or more nightshifts showed higher risk of experiencing WPV compared to RNs working less than 4 nightshifts in the previous 28 days.

Discussion In the present study the occurrence of WPV against PW RNs was significantly correlated with shift work; as consequence, the findings support the need of organisational interventions aimed at preventing the WPV and targeted on the management of shift-work schedules, with the aim of:

- limiting the night shifts up to two per week and up eight per month;
- adopting constant forward-rotating shift schedules.

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SOCIAL JETLAG AND OBESITY AMONG MALE FACTORY WORKERS IN JAPAN

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Introduction Obesity is a major risk factors for noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, musculoskeletal disorders, and some cancers, and this is preventable. Not only sleep duration or chronotype have been associated with body mass index (BMI), but also circadian misalignment ‘social jetlag’ may be possibly associated in recent studies. We investigated whether social jetlag were associated with obesity, independent from sleep duration or chronotype.

Methods A cross-sectional study was conducted among 1357 male workers who works at an electrical manufacturer from April 2014 to January 2015. Body height and weight, smoking status and frequency of alcohol drinking were collected via annual medical check-up.

Sleep duration, chronotype, and other work- or life-related factor were collected through an additional questionnaire. Social jetlag (SJ) was calculated as the absolute difference between mid-sleep time on weekdays and weekends and were categorised into four groups. Logistic regression analysis was performed to estimate the odds ratio (OR) for 1) obesity (BMI ≥30 kg/m²) and 2) abdominal obesity (Waist circumference ≥90 cm) for each SJ category (SJ <1 hour as reference) with adjustments for demographic, work- and life-related factors. A P value<0.05 was considered significant. Data were analysed using SPSS Ver.22.0.

Results Extreme SJ category (≥45 hours) had significant high OR (95% confidence interval (CI)) of 1) obesity and 2) central obesity after controlling for age, presence of night shift work, chronotype, sleep duration. OR (95% CI) were 3.68 (1.49–9.11), and 2.48 (1.28–4.79), respectively. We found no impact of SJ on BMI or abdominal obesity after controlling for additional other variables.

Conclusion It was found that extreme social jetlag possibly associated with high OR of obesity or abdominal obesity, independent from sleep duration and chronotype. However, there were no associations between social jetlag and BMI or abdominal obesity, when we considered other life-style variables.

THE IMPACT OF SHIFTWORK ON SLEEP QUALITY AMONG NHS NURSES

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Introduction Shiftwork is common amongst nurses and it is known to be a workplace hazard as it may cause poor sleep quality, which can impact adversely on the health and safety of nurses and their patients. The aims of this study were to identify and describe the association between poor sleep quality and shiftwork in nurses. Additionally, to explore factors that contribute to poor sleep quality and to assess the awareness of support from Occupational Health (OH).

Methods Cross-sectional study of nurses at a National Health Service Foundation Trust, February to March 2016. Data was collected via an online questionnaire. Sleep quality was measured using the Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index.

Result 888 nurses participated; 34% response rate. The prevalence of poor sleep quality was 78% (95% CI: 0.748 to 0.813) in the shift working nurses (SWNs), compared to 59% (95% CI: 0.503 to 0.678) in the non-shift working nurses (NSWNs). There was a mean sleep quality score difference of 1.58 between the SWNs and the NSWNs, which was statistically significant, p<0.001 (95% CI: 0.913 to 2.246). Undertaking shiftwork was the only significant association with poor sleep quality, when controlling for the other variables of age, gender and number of years worked, OR 0.410 p<0.001 (95% CI: 0.265 to 0.634).