

P-157

Karasek's questionnaire and field activity analysis

Fabienne Kern, Viviane Gonik

IST, LAUSANNE, Switzerland

Background

Karasek's questionnaire is widely used in epidemiological studies and each time more in « clinical studies » treating of specific work situation.

Aim

Is it relevant to use Karasek's questionnaire in these « clinical studies »?

Methods

An ergonomic intervention was made in a company responsible for vehicule control. The job's constraint of the 70 inspectors was analysed using Karasek's questionnaire and field activity analysis.

Results

Karasek's questionnaire showed a hight autonomy, contrary to the field activity analysis. In this specific work situation, Karasek's questions on autonomy cancel each other out. Analysing the field activity help to understand these contradictions. In this case, Karasek's questionnaire was not appropriate.

Conclusion

Using Karasek's questionnaire is not always relevant, it depend of the work activity. The field activity analysis is therefore totally complementary to questionnaires and allow validation of results. Field activity analysis is essential in all type of evaluation.