





Factors associated with the ability and willingness to continue working in construction workers?

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Introduction

- Decreasing working population in construction industry
 - Less young workers are entering the construction industry
 - Workers leave labour force before the official retirement age
- Important to further encourage labour force participation
- Labour force participation
 - Willingness
 - Ability







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- Decreasing working population in construction industry
 - Less young workers are entering the construction industry
 - Workers leave labour force before the official retirement age
- Important to further encourage labour force participation
- Labour force participation
 - Willingness → factors?
 - Ability → factors?







Aim

To identify factors associated with the ability and the willingness to continue working until the age of 65







Methods

Netherlands Working Conditions Survey (NWCS)

- Yearly about 25.000 participants
- Employees aged 15-64 years
- Self-reported questionnaires
 - Demographics
 - Health-related factors
 - Work-related factors

Present study

- 2007-2008-2009 data
- 5,610 construction workers







Methods

Outcomes – dependent variables

- Ability
 - "Do you think you are able to continue working in your current profession until the age of 65?"
 - Yes: 30%
 - No/ don't know: 71%
- Willingness
 - "Would you like to work until the age of 65?"
 - Yes: 29%
 - No/ don't know: 71%







Methods

Statistical analysis

- Cross-sectional study
- Logistic regression analysis
 - Demographics, work-related and health-related factors
 - Ability and willingness
- Crude and adjusted analysis







Demographics	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Age <32 years 32-44 years 45-54 years >54 years	1.00 1.13 (0.92-1.40) 1.30* (1.05-1.61) 1.41* (1.09-1.81)	1.00 1.02 (0.84-1.22) 0.92 (0.76-1.12) 0.56* (0.44-0.72)
Having a partner Yes, with a job Yes, without a job No	-	-







Work-related factors	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Shift work	-	-
Overtime work	1.28* (1.07-1.35)	-
Dangerous work	0.75* (0.62-0.90)	-







Physical demands	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Using force No Sometimes Frequently	1.00 0.71* (0.56-0.90) 0.44* (0.34-0.59)	1.00 0.89 (0,72-1.10) 0.71* (0.58-0.88)
Working in awkward postures No Sometimes Frequently	1.00 0.76* (0.61-0.94) 0.47* (0.35-0.62)	-
Exposure to vibration	-	-







Psychosocial factors	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Job autonomy High Intermediate Low	1.00 0.82* (0.68-0.98) 0.61* (0.48-0.77)	-
Skill discretion High Intermediate Low	1.00 0.86 (0.70-1.05) 0.70* (0.54-0.91)	1.00 0.79* (0.66-0.94) 0.95 (0.76-1.19)
Emotional demands	-	-
Quantitative job demands	-	-







Social support	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Co-worker support High Intermediate Low	-	1.00 1.13 (0.94-1.37) 1.37* (1.08-1.75)
Supervisor support High Intermediate Low	1.00 0.76* (0.63-0.92) 0.58* (0.45-0.76)	1.00 0.72* (0.60-0.86) 0.59* (0.46-0.75)







Health	Ability OR (95% CI)	Willingness OR (95% CI)
Musculoskeletal symptoms		
Never	1.00	1.00
Occasional	0.63* (0.53-0.75)	0.77* (0.66-0.91)
Frequent	0.40* (0.32-0.51)	0.69* (0.57-0.85)
Emotional exhaustion	0.62* (0.46-0.83)	-







	Ability	Willingness
Demographics • An older age	+	_
 Work-related factors Overtime work Dangerous work High physical job demands Lack of job autonomy Lack of skill discretion Low co-worker support Lack of supervisor support 	+ - - -	- - +
HealthEmotional exhaustionMusculoskeletal symptoms	- -	-







Discussion

 Literature: No previous studies investigated the ability or willingness to continue working in blue collar workers







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- Methodological considerations
 - Outcome measure: ability and willingness







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- Methodological considerations
 - Outcome measure: ability and willingness
 - Other variables not measured in the present study
 - Challenging work, job control and rewards
 - Financial context
 - Lifestyle factors







Conclusion

 Next to physical job demands, psychosocial factors play a role in the ability and willingness to continue working in construction workers







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- Preventing musculoskeletal symptoms may support both the ability and willingness to continue working, whereas emotional exhaustion is relevant for the ability to continue working







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