

## ACCESO DIRECTO A LOS SUMARIOS

- [American Journal of Industrial Medicine.](#)
- [Archivos de Prevención de Riesgos Laborales.](#)
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- [Journal of Occupational Medicine and Toxicology.](#)
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- [Safety Science.](#)
- [Scandinavian Journal of Work and Environmental Health.](#)
- [Work & Stress.](#)

## ARTÍCULOS DESTACADOS

**Montero-Marin J, Garcia-Campayo J, Mosquera D, Lópey Y. A new definition of burnout syndrome based on Farber's proposal. J Occup Med Toxicol 2009, 4:31.**

**BACKGROUND:** Although diverse definitions have been construed for burnout syndrome, most authors consider it to be a single phenomenon, the result of chronic work-related stress. However, in order to enable specific intervention strategies to be adopted, it is first necessary to establish different profiles for the syndrome. In this respect, have been proposed three burnout types ("frenetic", "underchallenged" and "worn-out"), each of which requires different means of dealing with frustration in the workplace. This study is an attempt to define and systematize the properties that characterize this typology proposal. **METHODS:** For this purpose, the documents considering preliminary typology were examined by means of qualitative content analysis supported by grounded theory. Semiotic analysis was then performed on the core category resulting from the previous analysis. **RESULTS:** A classification criterion, made up of three different burnout subtypes ("frenetic", "underchallenged", and "worn-out") capable of integrating the entire proposal was formulated. **DISCUSSION:** Understanding the development of burnout syndrome, as a succession of stages characterized by the progressive diminishing of dedication to work, could serve for the establishment of specific therapies and for the prevention of the syndrome.

**Kromark K, Dulon M, Beck BB, Nienhaus A. Back disorders and lumbar load in nursing staff in geriatric care: a comparison of home-based care and nursing homes. J Occup Med Toxicol. 2009 Dec 10;4:33.**

**BACKGROUND:** Back pain is one of the most frequent complaints in the nursing profession. Thus, the 12-month prevalence of pain in the lumbar spine in nursing staff is as high as 76%. Only a few representative studies have assessed the prevalence rates of back pain and its risk factors among nursing staff in nursing homes in comparison to staff in home-based care facilities. The present study accordingly investigates the prevalence in the lumbar and cervical spine and determines the physical workload to lifting and caring in geriatric care. **METHODS:** 1390 health care workers in nursing homes and home care participated in this cross sectional survey. The nursing staff members were examined by occupational physicians according to the principals of the multistep diagnosis of musculoskeletal disorders. Occupational exposure to daily care activities with patient transfers was measured by a standardised questionnaire. The lumbar load was calculated with the Mainz-Dortmund dose model. Information on ergonomic

conditions were recorded from the management of the nursing homes. Comparisons of all outcome variables were made between both care settings. **RESULTS:** Complete documentation, including the findings from the occupational physicians and the questionnaire, was available for 41%. Staff in nursing homes had more often positive orthopaedic findings than staff in home care. At the same time the values calculated for lumbar load were found to be significant higher in staff in nursing homes than in home-based care: 45% vs. 6% were above the reference value. Nursing homes were well equipped with technical lifting aids, though their provision with assistive devices is unsatisfactory. Situation in home care seems worse, especially as the staff often has to get by without assistance. **CONCLUSIONS:** Future interventions should focus on counteracting work-related lumbar load among staff in nursing homes. Equipment and training in handling of assistive devices should be improved especially for staff working in home care.

F G B G J van Rooy, R Houba, N Palmen, M M Zengeni, I Sander, J Spithoven, J M Rooyackers, D J J Heederik. A cross-sectional study among detergent workers exposed to liquid detergent enzymes. *Occup Environ Med* 2009;66:759-765.

**OBJECTIVES:** To investigate sensitisation and respiratory health among workers who produce liquid detergent products and handle liquid detergent enzymes. **METHODS:** We performed a cross-sectional study among 109 eligible workers of a detergent products plant. 108 were interviewed for respiratory and allergic symptoms and 106 blood samples were taken from them to examine sensitisation to enzymes. Those sensitised to  $\geq 1$  enzymes were referred for clinical evaluation. Workers and representatives were interviewed to characterise exposure qualitatively and estimate exposure semi-quantitatively. Workers were classified into three exposure groups with varying exposure profiles to enzymes, based on frequency, duration, and level of exposure. **RESULTS:** Workers were exposed to proteases,  $\alpha$ -amylase, lipase and cellulase. The highest exposures occurred in the mixing area. Liquid spills with concentrated enzyme preparations and leakage of enzymes during weighing, transportation and filling were causing workplace contaminations and subsequently leading to both dermal and inhalation exposure for workers. Workers with the highest exposures reported significantly more work-related symptoms of itching nose (prevalence ratio (PR)=4.2, 95% CI 1.5 to 12.0) and sneezing (PR=4.0, 95% CI 1.5 to 10.8) and marginally significant more symptoms of wheezing (PR=2.9, 95% CI 0.9 to 8.7) compared with the least exposed group. Fifteen workers (14.2%) were sensitised to  $\geq 1$  enzymes. A marginally statistically significant gradient in sensitisation across the exposure categories was found ( $p=0.09$ ). There was a clinical case of occupational asthma and two others with probable occupational rhinitis. **CONCLUSIONS:** Workers exposed to liquid detergent enzymes are at risk of developing sensitisation (14%) and respiratory allergy.

Høivik D, Tharaldsen JE, Baste V, Moen BE. What is most important for safety climate: The company belonging or the local working environment? – A study from the Norwegian offshore industry. *Safety Science*.2010;47(10):1324-1331.

#### **Abstract**

Obtaining knowledge about factors affecting health, safety and environment (HSE) is of major interest to the petroleum industry, but there is currently a severe shortage of relevant studies. The aim of this study was to examine the relative influence of offshore installation (local working environment) and company belonging on employees' opinions concerning occupational health and safety. We analyzed data from a safety climate survey answered by 4479 Norwegian offshore petroleum employees in 2005 on the dimensions "Safety prioritisation", "Safety management and involvement", "Safety versus production", "Individual motivation", "System comprehension" and "Competence" using one way analysis of variance (ANOVA), effect size and mixed model. The companies differed significantly for "Safety prioritisation", "Safety versus production", "Individual motivation", "System comprehension" and "Competence". The local offshore installation explained more of the safety climate than the company they were employed in or worked for did.

Moriyama T, Ohtani H. Risk assessment tools incorporating human error probabilities in the Japanese small-sized establishment. Safety Science.2010;47(10):1379-1397.

#### **Abstract**

Although it has been estimated that as many as 80% of all occupational accidents have human errors as a cause, no risk assessment tools incorporating human-related elements have been developed for small companies. Human error probability (HEP) and human error analysis (HEA) have been used for large-scale, safety-critical industries for last three decades, but these tools are not suitable for smaller, more general industries that comprise the majority of accident settings.

Here, we describe and verify a risk assessment tool that includes human-related elements for small companies. The tool expands on traditional risk assessment methods, such as matrix, risk graph and numerical scoring method, by adding human-related elements. The tool is easy-to-use in occupational environments, and includes assessments of human behavior and potentially outdated machinery at work place.

#### **ARTÍCULOS DE AUTORES ESPAÑOLES**

Alén C, Muñoz JL, Leal P. Measurement of machinery safety level in the European market: A real case based on market surveillance data. Safety Science.2010;47(10):1285-1296.

Blanch A, Torrelles B, Aluja A, Salinas JA. Age and lost working days as a result of an occupational accident: A study in a shiftwork rotation system. Safety Science. 2010;47(10): 1359-1363.

Montero MJ, Araque R, Rey JM. Occupational health and safety in the framework of corporate social responsibility. Safety Science.2010;47(10): 1440-1445.

Villar-Gómez A, Muñoz X, Culebras M, Morell F, Cruz M-J. Occupational asthma caused by inhalation of surfactant composed of amines. Scand J Work Environ Health 2009;35(6):475-478.



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