

Design an intervention protocol for the prevention of WMSD in Colombia.

Development of a comprehensive ergonomic intervention

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Abstract

In Colombia among 1985 and 2000, the WMSD is the leading cause of occupational morbidity in 32.8% of all cases. 2001 and 2004 the Ministry of Social Protection states that MSDs are the principal cause of occupational morbidity; the total number of MSDs in Colombia in 2005 was 23,477 cases and was estimated 11.6 per 10,000 workers. According to the report of occupational disease in Colombia 2001 – 2004, the MSDs account for 65% of all diagnoses of workers.

Our process of intervention was conducted in 30 Colombian companies. Of these 23 are big companies, 7 are small and medium-sized company were met. In this sample of 13 companies are public administration, 10 of the transport sector, 4 from other activities, 3 manufacturing industry.

The ergonomic intervention model, departed from the database provided by Positive Insurance Company, composition data on the phenomenon of MSDs in the companies through the analysis of cases of PD. This resulted in a total sample of 1426 workers, distributed in 744 men and 560 women, for biomechanical analysis of the whole group was taken a sample of 267 additional workers Psychosocial tests were applied in 28 companies and specified clinical evaluation was performed in 82 workers .

The MSDs Prevention protocol, was developed from the ergonomics activity approach, this approach can identify MSDs generating events (causes) for the purpose of structuring and organizing knowledge that would enable the development of strategies prevention and control. This protocol as a tool to develop a Knowledge Base, which describes a special type of database, knowledge management, i.e. data relating to the worker, the tasks, technology, organization and process. The objective of this knowledge base is to model and store in digital form such a body of knowledge, ideas, concepts or data to be accessed or used for the prevention of MSDs.

Key Words: Activity, Ergonomics, Muscle skeletal disorders, Prevention, Knowledge model