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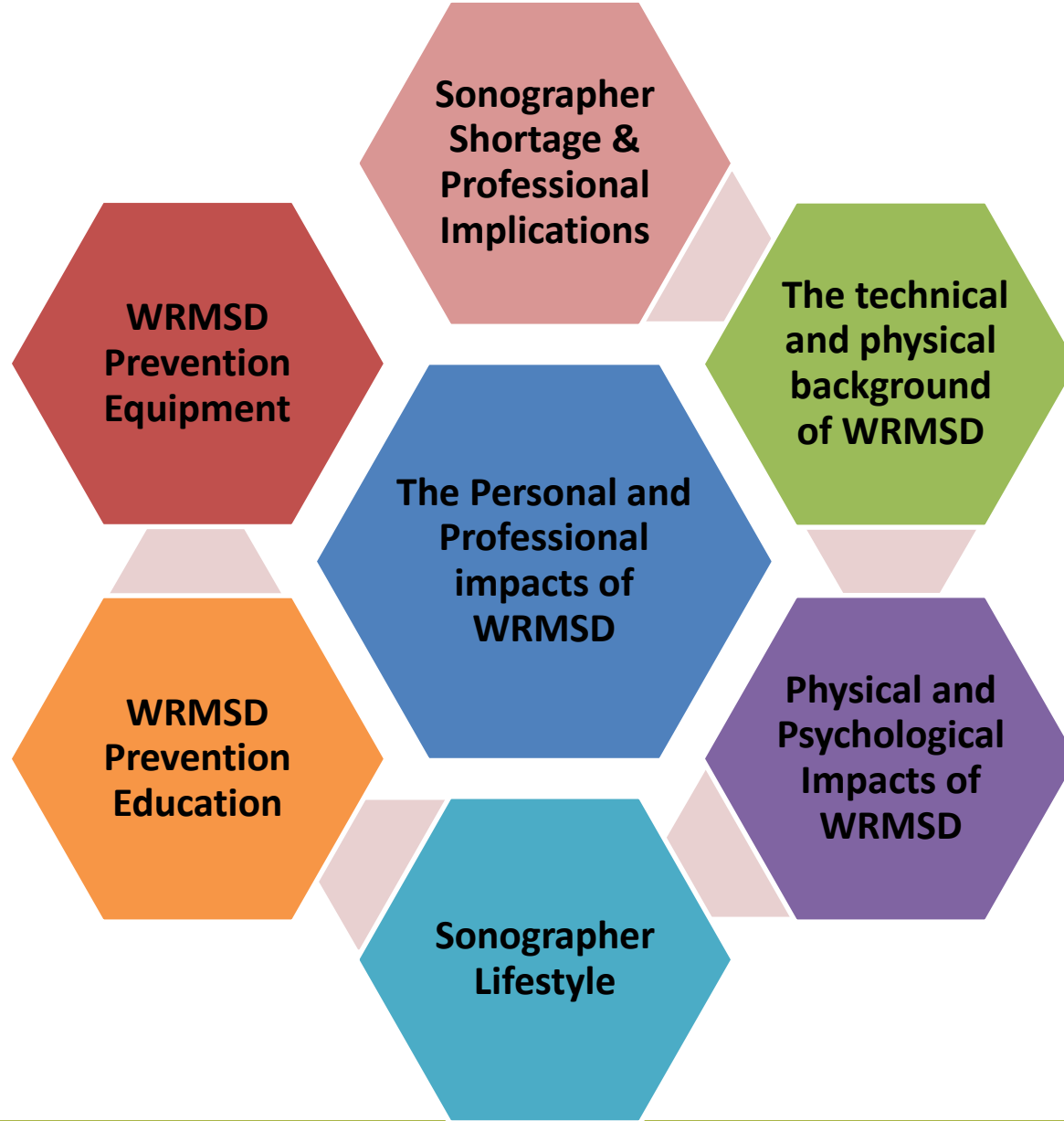
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The Personal Impact of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WRMSD) on Sonographers

Gareth Bolton, Lisa Booth & Paul Miller

Background



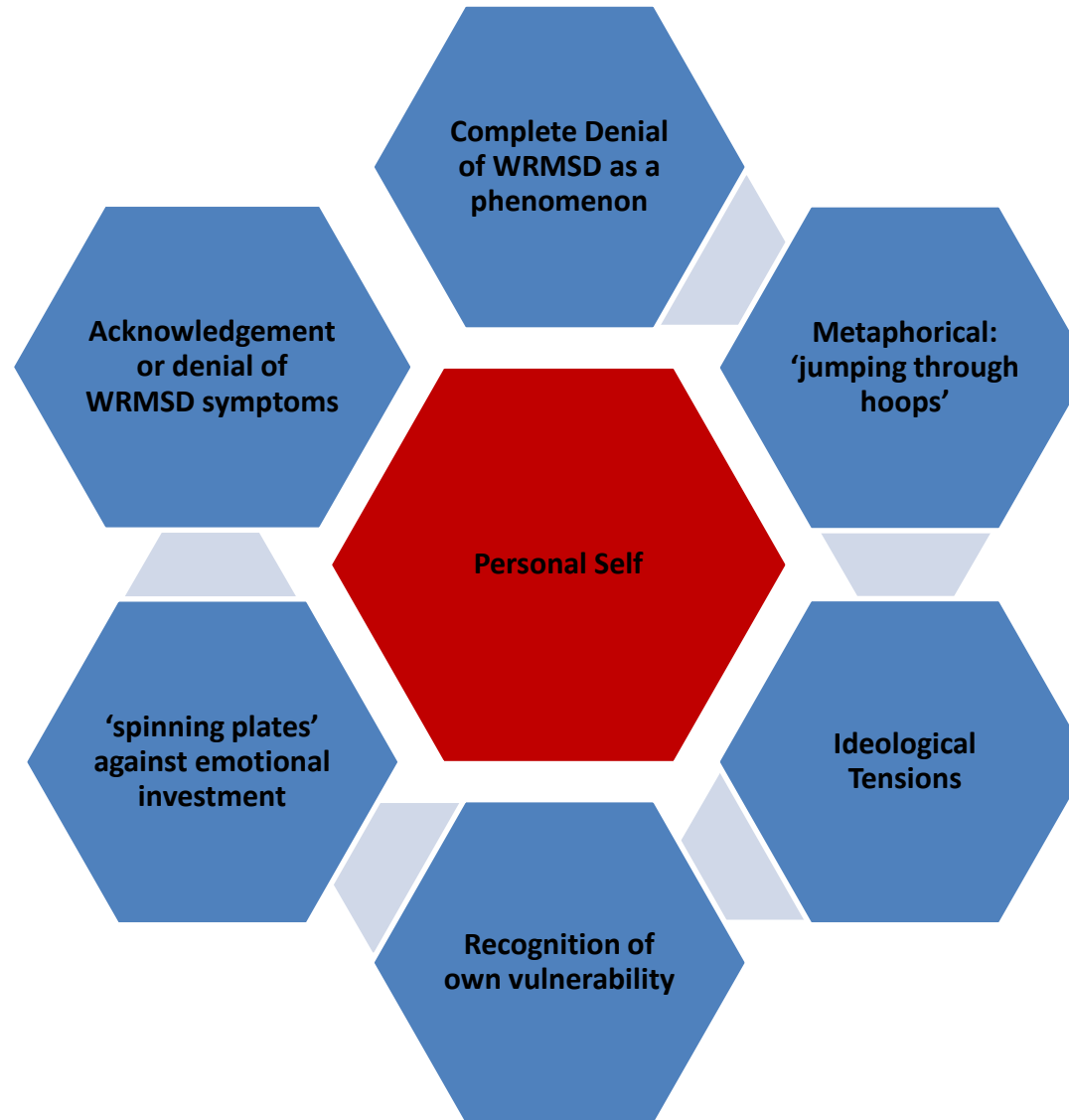
Method: A Model of Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) was used as the framework for the study:

1. Purposive sample of 9 experienced sonographers from across the UK

2. Semi-structured interviews, recorded and transcribed verbatim

3. Interview data was analysed using a model of interpretive phenomenological analysis (IPA)

Findings



Interview Participant Responses: Ideological Tensions/Dilemmas

1. *"It's difficult to answer because every time I do a different sport I get injured. It's an age thing that apparently [laughing]. I've had to stop various sports and drop various sports in the last few years, **I keep getting injured [laughing]. There's nothing that's impacted on my work ever other than when I was off for three days with a bad back at the end of last year**, and that was a one-off and it's never happened before or since".*

*"**I've nothing to prove given the fact that I've never had a work-related injury** and the fact that I've never had any problem even though despite my technique is probably not the best technique"*

Interview Participant Responses: Ideological Tensions/Dilemmas

2. [Quotation is in relation to muscle strengthening exercises] **"There's just so many other things to do.** I mean, if I haven't got, like if you talk about doing it actually in works time cos I wouldn't really think about doing it when I was at home but **there's always something else to do,** like looking at your e-mails or vetting requests or there's always, if you're not actually scanning somebody there's something else to do, sorting roll out for the room or, you know, whatever"

Interview Participant Responses: Ideological Tensions/Dilemmas

3. *[A participant talking about their injury] "Well I think it's made me think more about looking after myself because it started with my thumb was sore and then because of the way perhaps I compensated and then I had an elbow problem and then shoulder and neck and that was over a few years, and then I had some physio which wasn't much help and then somebody, a friend, suggested that I saw a physio at the [Removed for anonymity] and I had acupuncture and that was the start where I felt **I was getting obviously in control**"*

Conclusion

Acknowledgement of professional role

Altruism and being a 'good' sonographer

Conclusions

Sense of tension between 'Personal self' and being sonographers

Further exploration of other conceptual frameworks

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