



## Occupational outcome in 2007-2008 of workers suffering from musculoskeletal disorders in the French Pays de la Loire region

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Auteur	Sérazin, Céline [1], Bodin, Julie [2], Ha, Catherine [3], Tassy, Véronique [4], Touranchet, Annie [5], Bidron, Patrick [6], Méritet, Françoise [7], Ledenvic, Bénédicte [8], Leroux, François [9], Mazoyer, Annick [10], Roquelaure, Yves [11], Imbernon, Ellen [12]
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**Aims:** A French program of epidemiological surveillance implemented in 2002 in the Pays de la Loire region revealed a prevalence of 13% for the 6 most frequent upper extremity musculoskeletal disorders (UEMSDs) among a sample of salaried workers: rotator cuff syndrome, lateral epicondylitis, flexor-extensor peritendinitis of the hands and fingers, De Quervain's disease, carpal tunnel syndrome and ulnar tunnel syndrome. The aim of this study is to describe the occupational outcome of these workers a few years later.

**Methods:** From 2002 to 2004, 83 occupational physicians examined 3,710 workers randomly selected [1], following the recommendations of the European consensus Saltsa [2]. 3 groups were constituted:

- Group 1: workers with no upper limb pain during the past 7 days (49% of the sample)

- Group 2: workers with pain during the past 7 days but without any clinical diagnosed form of UEMSDs (38%),

- Group 3: workers with at least one clinically diagnosed UEMSD (13%)

In 2007 and 2008, they received by mail a questionnaire about their occupational activities.

**Results:** 2,332 people responded. Workers were older in group 3. After adjusting for age, we found as many retired people in the 3 groups. Among the non-retired workers (table), those who were not working were more numerous in group 3 and less numerous in group 1 ( $p=0.0007$ ). Among those still at work, the percentage of workers who have changed their working station since 2002-2004 differed between groups ( $p=0.04$ ): 24% have changed their working station in the same company in group 2 (vs 19% in group 1 and 21% in group 3), and 16% have moved to another company in group 2 (vs 14% and 10%, respectively).

**Conclusion:** This study shows that the occupational outcome varies according to the previous UEMSDs status.

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