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Kepada: Merry Siska <merrysiska@uin-suska.ac.id>

31 Agustus 2021 pukul 03.21

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International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

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## Invitation to review for International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

**International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics** <em@editorialmanager.com>

31 Agustus 2021 pukul 03.21

Balas Ke: International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics <ergon@elsevier.com>

Kepada: Merry Siska <merrysiska@uin-suska.ac.id>

Manuscript Number: ERGON-D-21-00047

Risk factors and prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in the meat processing industry. Comparative analysis of Poland-Iran.

mehrdad hassani; Patrycja Kabiesz; Reza Hesampour; Joanna Bartnicka; Sahebeh Mirzaei

Dear Dr Siska,

I would like to invite you to review the above referenced manuscript submitted by Mr Mehrdad Hassani , as I believe it falls within your expertise and interest. The abstract for this manuscript is included below.

You should treat this invitation, the manuscript and your review as confidential. You must not share your review or information about the review process with anyone without the agreement of the editors and authors involved, even after publication. This also applies to other reviewers' "comments to author" which are shared with you on decision (and vice versa).

Please respond to this invitation at your earliest opportunity.

If you would like to review this paper, please click this link:

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If you have a conflict of interest or do not wish to review this paper, please click this link:

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I hope you will be able to review this manuscript.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and time.

As a reviewer you are entitled to complimentary access to references, abstracts, and full-text articles on ScienceDirect and Scopus for 30 days. Full details on how to claim your access via Reviewer Hub ([reviewerhub.elsevier.com](https://reviewerhub.elsevier.com)) will be provided upon your acceptance of this invitation to review.

Please visit the Elsevier Reviewer Hub ([reviewerhub.elsevier.com](https://reviewerhub.elsevier.com)) to manage all your refereeing activities for this and other Elsevier journals on Editorial Manager.

Kind regards,

Rammohan Maikala

Editor

International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

Please also note that authors have been invited to convert methods-related supplementary material into a MethodsX article (a detailed description of their methods). You may notice this change alongside the revised manuscript. You do not need to review this but may need to look at the files in order to confirm that any supporting information you requested is present there.

Abstract:

Activities performed by people in the meat processing industry are very repetitive, time-consuming, dangerous and require long-term downtime during a shift (forced-static position) this leads to the development of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) symptoms among the workers. However, there is little research on the prevalence of MSDs symptoms and associated risk factors among workers in the meat

processing industry. To fill this research gap, this study aims to assess the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders and working conditions among Polish and Iranian workers. A comparative analysis of the prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in developed and developing countries was conducted. After selecting the target factories, data were collected using 3DSSPP questionnaires and software with the participation of 110 meat processing workers, including 55 Iranian and 55 Polish. In this study, there was nearly the prevalence of study among male Iranian and Polish workers, especially in elbows, wrist/hands, upper back, hip/thigh, and ankles/feet. The overall prevalence of MSDs was relatively high and connected to the lower back (38%, 64%), knee (40%, 24%), neck (24%, 42%), upper back (24%, 34.5%) among Iranian and Polish workers, respectively. The result of the analysis conducted with 3DSSPP, illustrated, carrying, and filling posture among Polish workers is higher than Iranian laborers. Related risk factors, including age, stress, work experience, working hours, smoking, exercise was analyzed among meat processing employees. Research results indicate the prevalence and severity of MSDs among workers in both developing and developed countries and illustrate the need for ergonomic interventions to relieve symptoms of the musculoskeletal system

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## Review for International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics - next steps

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31 Agustus 2021 pukul 05.06

\*This is an automated message.\*

Manuscript Number: ERGON-D-21-00047

Risk factors and prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in the meat processing industry. Comparative analysis of Poland-Iran.

Dear Dr Siska,

Thank you for agreeing to review the above referenced manuscript.

Timely reviews are of utmost importance to authors, therefore I would be grateful if you would please submit your review by Sep 20, 2021.

Please read the following instructions carefully before starting your evaluation:

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I look forward to receiving your review soon.

Thank you in advance for your contribution and time.

Kind Regards,

Rammohan Maikala  
Editor  
International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

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## Review for International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics - manuscript rejected

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Balas Ke: International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics <support@elsevier.com>  
Kepada: Merry Siska <merrysiska@uin-suska.ac.id>

9 Oktober 2021 pukul 05.11

Manuscript Number: ERGON-D-21-00047

Risk factors and prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in the meat processing industry. Comparative analysis of Poland-Iran.  
mehrdad hassani; Patrycja Kabiesz; Reza Hesampour; Joanna Bartnicka; Sahebeh Mirzaei

Dear Dr Siska,

Thank you for reviewing the above referenced manuscript. With your help, I have reached a reject decision on this manuscript<sup>[redacted]</sup>.

The anonymised comments to author, from all reviewers, are included below. You can also access this information by logging into Editorial Manager as a reviewer.

Thank you for your contribution and time in reviewing this manuscript, which not only assisted me in reaching my decision, but also enables the author(s) to disseminate their work at the highest possible quality.

I am grateful to you for your assistance as a reviewer for International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics.

Kind regards,

Rammohan Maikala  
Editor  
International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

Comments to author:

Reviewer #1: The paper describes a cross-sectional prevalence of symptoms of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) in the meat packing industry at two plants in two different countries. Although, the comparison is an interesting one the paper has a significant number of shortcomings as listed below which limit the benefit of the work. The three main issues are related to a lack of clarity in the presentation of the work, incorrect interpretation of the literature and metrics used, and lack of clarity in the statistical tests. These three combined make it very hard to evaluate the work or its conclusions.

- Grammar and language needs to be updated throughout the manuscript, especially in the introduction and discussion. It is unclear what message the authors are trying to convey. I would recommend a native English speaker thoroughly review, edit, and revise the manuscript.
- Although the title indicates "prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders" the NMQ only evaluates symptoms of MSDs and not MSDs themselves and those are very different metrics. The paper should be updated to indicate symptoms of MSDs are evaluated and not MSDs.
- The abstract indicates there is a lack of information on the prevalence of MSDs in the meat processing sectors, however both the introduction and discussion reference several studies.
- Abstract: Not clear how posture is higher when talking about 3DSSPP. Do you mean the spinal compression loads were higher, or postures more extreme/worst? Also, they were higher, or worst compared to what?
- In the introduction it is indicated that it is "uncertain, what extent MSDs are caused by work." However, there is a wealth of information that indicates that most MSDs are in fact work related.
- Please provide reference to studies in the introduction, especially when talking about MSD in meat packing in New Zealand and Canada.
- In the introduction the study by Tappin et al., 2008 is interpreted as saying "MSDs has demonstrated extremely resistance to physical, micro-level interventions." This is incorrect, first, the study only indicates other factors should be considered simultaneously, secondly, it is well established that changes to the physical environment and work is the most effective way to prevent MSDs
- In the methods it is indicated that risk factors are assessed, however the work itself was not analyzed and classical risk factors like force, posture and repetition are not reported other than when using 3DSSPP, and even then only outcomes measures in terms of compressive and shear forces are presented. The paper should clearly indicate what risk factors are being considered.
- In the method what is described as "work-related characteristics" are in fact more related to organizational and personal factors.
- For 3DSSPP, how was the load estimated? What was the sample size of the five tasks? Was only 1 image used per task? If so, how can you generalize beyond that individual performing the task?
- In the statistical analysis, what is considered independent and dependent variables.
- Please provide more detail on the chi square tests. Unclear what the p-value is testing. It seems like all its testing is the central limit theory or normal distribution and even this is unclear for the nominal and ordinal variables. It is hard to interpret and make a judgment on the results until the tests are appropriately described
- Multiple chi-square tests were used, which might lead to an increased alpha. Were any corrections to the p value considered to avoid alpha inflation?
- The discussion highlights the differences and similarities, but does not provide any discussion on why there occur, the importance of the findings, or any solutions to alleviate and reduce the symptoms of MSDs
- Although acknowledged, this study only compared one company (plant) in each country so its hard to make generalizable conclusions about the differences and similarities and hence does not provide a novel perspective on MSDs in meat packing.
- Include appropriate decimal placed for p-values for easier interpretation in table 4 and 5
- Please check the labeling/numbers in table 7. Compression in L5-S1 seems unusually low, and shear in L4-L5 seems unusually high. Maybe the labeling is incorrect.
- What do the items in bold indicate in table 7
- Aspect ratio of the images have been changed distorting the images. Please maintain aspect ratio of the original images.
- Table 6 and 7 are incorrectly numbered

Reviewer #2: 2.1 Why only five positions were determined in this research?  
2.2 How to calculate and determine Mental Stress Questionnaire (MSQ) to get data collection  
2.2 Why are only nine areas of the body use as a standard in NMQ?  
2.2 How to hold ten experts in this research and give some requirements for being panel experts.  
2.2 How to conduct a content test, calculating the content validity ratio and content validity index for Iran and Poland.  
2.3 Why only use 20 similar individuals?  
2.4 Why use SPSS for statistical analysis? Why don't use other tools for statistical analysis?  
3.4 What is the output of a notable relationship between risk aspects and the prevalence of pain?  
3.5 Why uses 3DSSPP software for compression force and shear forces due to loading and unloading tasks of workers.  
3.6 Why only use logistic regression to investigate the effect of different groups?  
Add some realistic and ergonomic corrective action for every position in this research!

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5 Oktober 2021 pukul 16.57

Balas Ke: International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics <support@elsevier.com>

Kepada: Merry Siska <merrysiska@uin-suska.ac.id>

Manuscript Number: ERGON-D-21-00047

Risk factors and prevalence of musculoskeletal disorders in the meat processing industry. Comparative analysis of Poland-Iran.

mehrdad hassani; Patrycja Kabiesz; Reza Hesampour; Joanna Bartnicka; Sahebeh Mirzaei

Dear Dr Siska,

Thank you for reviewing the above referenced manuscript. I greatly appreciate your contribution and time, which not only assisted me in reaching my decision, but also enables the author(s) to disseminate their work at the highest possible quality. Without the dedication of reviewers like you, it would be impossible to manage an efficient peer review process and maintain the high standards necessary for a successful journal.

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I hope that you will consider International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics as a potential journal for your own submissions in the future.

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Kind regards,

Rammohan Maikala

Editor

International Journal of Industrial Ergonomics

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## Reviewer Feedback

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Kepada: merrysiska@uin-suska.ac.id

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Louise Hall  
Research and Academic Relations  
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