

From the Editor

Did you know that arthritis is a global condition that impacts millions of employment-aged adults (18–64 years)? For example, in the United States alone over 5% of all employment-aged adults have some limitations in the ability to work due to arthritis?

This issue of *WORK* introduces a new column: *Working with Arthritis* which is edited by Dr. Julie J. Keysor, the Director of the Center for Enhancing Activity and Participation among Persons with Arthritis (ENACT). This first column is all about the effects of arthritis and other rheumatic conditions on employment. I am sure you will find it timely as well as educational.

The issue also contains 13 articles. There are two articles which address individuals with mental health issues. Perceptions of the worker role among people with psychiatric disabilities is authored by Argentzell and Eklund. Using a phenomenological analysis, Blank, Harries and Reynolds investigated the meaning and experience of work in the context of severe and enduring mental health problems.

Occupational factors associated with the potential years of working life lost due to a non-work related permanent disability were studied by Duran, Martinez, and Benavides.

Guglielmi and colleagues examined the role of boredom in organizational contexts.

Heijbel, Josephson and Vingrd discussed the implementation of a rehabilitation model for employees on long-term sick leave in the public sector.

Shih, Huang, and Lu examined the influence of computer screen polarity and color on the accuracy of workers' reading of graphics.

Being an occupational therapist, I found Katz, Izhaky and Dror's article very interesting. They discussed reasons why health care professionals such as occupational therapists and speech language pathologists choose their respective careers and workplaces. Health care professionals in general were investigated by Matilde and colleagues who looked at burnout in those individuals working with a specific client population.

McGill and colleagues studied firefighters and the quality of movement to measures of fitness.

Shanahan and colleagues conducted a comparison of three instruments: RULA, REBA and Strain Index to four psychophysical scales in the assessment of non-fixed work.

Nilsson, Andersson and Ejlertsson described the Work Experience Measurement Scale (WEMS), a useful tool in workplace health promotion.

Oakman and Howie discussed how organizations influence their older employees' decision of when to retire. I found this article of particular interest!

Zaeimdar and colleagues' study determined proper strategies for a Health, Safety, Security and Environmental (HSSE) Management System.

This issue also includes the *Speaking of Research* article on a conceptual overview of structural equation modeling (SEM) in rehabilitation research. It was authored by Merchant, Li, Karpinski and Rumrill. As the authors wrote in their abstract, SEM is a "... statistical technique can facilitate a better understanding of large data sets involving theoretical models that have become more frequent in this discipline".

Our issue concludes with the new column, *Working with Arthritis* authored by the column editors Dr. Saralynn Allaire and Dr. Keysor in conjunction with R. Al Heresh. I know you will enjoy this ongoing column. I hope you enjoyed reading the articles composing this issue of *WORK* as much as I did. As always, I welcome hearing from you and look forward to your submission of a manuscript to our journal.

Cheers,
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