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# Strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based policies or practices targeting tobacco, alcohol, diet, physical activity and obesity (Review)

Wolfenden L, Goldman S, Stacey FG, Grady A, Kingsland M, Williams CM, Wiggers J, Milat A, Rissel C, Bauman A, Farrell MM, Légaré F, Ben Charif A, Zomahoun HTV, Hodder RK, Jones J, Booth D, Parmenter B, Regan T, Yoong SL

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[Intervention Review]

# Strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based policies or practices targeting tobacco, alcohol, diet, physical activity and obesity

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# ABSTRACT

# **Background**

Given the substantial period of time adults spend in their workplaces each day, these provide an opportune setting for interventions addressing modifiable behavioural risk factors for chronic disease. Previous reviews of trials of workplace-based interventions suggest they can be effective in modifying a range of risk factors including diet, physical activity, obesity, risky alcohol use and tobacco use. However, such interventions are often poorly implemented in workplaces, limiting their impact on employee health. Identifying strategies that are effective in improving the implementation of workplace-based interventions has the potential to improve their effects on health outcomes.

# **Objectives**

To assess the effects of strategies for improving the implementation of workplace-based policies or practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use.

Secondary objectives were to assess the impact of such strategies on employee health behaviours, including dietary intake, physical activity, weight status, and alcohol and tobacco use; evaluate their cost-effectiveness; and identify any unintended adverse effects of implementation strategies on workplaces or workplace staff.



### Search methods

We searched the following electronic databases on 31 August 2017: CENTRAL; MEDLINE; MEDLINE In Process; the Campbell Library; PsycINFO; Education Resource Information Center (ERIC); Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL); and Scopus. We also handsearched all publications between August 2012 and September 2017 in two speciality journals: *Implementation Science* and *Journal of Translational Behavioral Medicine*. We conducted searches up to September 2017 in Dissertations and Theses, the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform, and the US National Institutes of Health Registry. We screened the reference lists of included trials and contacted authors to identify other potentially relevant trials. We also consulted experts in the field to identify other relevant research.

### **Selection criteria**

Implementation strategies were defined as strategies specifically employed to improve the implementation of health interventions into routine practice within specific settings. We included any trial with a parallel control group (randomised or non-randomised) and conducted at any scale that compared strategies to support implementation of workplace policies or practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, risky alcohol use or tobacco use versus no intervention (i.e. wait-list, usual practice or minimal support control) or another implementation strategy. Implementation strategies could include those identified by the Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) taxonomy such as quality improvement initiatives and education and training, as well as other strategies. Implementation interventions could target policies or practices directly instituted in the workplace environment, as well as workplace-instituted efforts encouraging the use of external health promotion services (e.g. gym membership subsidies).

### **Data collection and analysis**

Review authors working in pairs independently performed citation screening, data extraction and 'Risk of bias' assessment, resolving disagreements via consensus or a third reviewer. We narratively synthesised findings for all included trials by first describing trial characteristics, participants, interventions and outcomes. We then described the effect size of the outcome measure for policy or practice implementation. We performed meta-analysis of implementation outcomes for trials of comparable design and outcome.

### **Main results**

We included six trials, four of which took place in the USA. Four trials employed randomised controlled trial (RCT) designs. Trials were conducted in workplaces from the manufacturing, industrial and services-based sectors. The sample sizes of workplaces ranged from 12 to 114. Workplace policies and practices targeted included: healthy catering policies; point-of-purchase nutrition labelling; environmental supports for healthy eating and physical activity; tobacco control policies; weight management programmes; and adherence to guidelines for staff health promotion. All implementation interventions utilised multiple implementation strategies, the most common of which were educational meetings, tailored interventions and local consensus processes. Four trials compared an implementation strategy intervention with a no intervention control, one trial compared different implementation interventions, and one three-arm trial compared two implementation strategies with each other and a control. Four trials reported a single implementation outcome, whilst the other two reported multiple outcomes. Investigators assessed outcomes using surveys, audits and environmental observations. We judged most trials to be at high risk of performance and detection bias and at unclear risk of reporting and attrition bias.

Of the five trials comparing implementation strategies with a no intervention control, pooled analysis was possible for three RCTs reporting continuous score-based measures of implementation outcomes. The meta-analysis found no difference in standardised effects (standardised mean difference (SMD) -0.01, 95% CI -0.32 to 0.30; 164 participants; 3 studies; low certainty evidence), suggesting no benefit of implementation support in improving policy or practice implementation, relative to control. Findings for other continuous or dichotomous implementation outcomes reported across these five trials were mixed. For the two non-randomised trials examining comparative effectiveness, both reported improvements in implementation, favouring the more intensive implementation group (very low certainty evidence). Three trials examined the impact of implementation strategies on employee health behaviours, reporting mixed effects for diet and weight status (very low certainty evidence) and no effect for physical activity (very low certainty evidence) or tobacco use (low certainty evidence). One trial reported an increase in absolute workplace costs for health promotion in the implementation group (low certainty evidence). None of the included trials assessed adverse consequences. Limitations of the review included the small number of trials identified and the lack of consistent terminology applied in the implementation science field, which may have resulted in us overlooking potentially relevant trials in the search.

### **Authors' conclusions**

Available evidence regarding the effectiveness of implementation strategies for improving implementation of health-promoting policies and practices in the workplace setting is sparse and inconsistent. Low certainty evidence suggests that such strategies may make little or no difference on measures of implementation fidelity or different employee health behaviour outcomes. It is also unclear if such strategies are cost-effective or have potential unintended adverse consequences. The limited number of trials identified suggests implementation research in the workplace setting is in its infancy, warranting further research to guide evidence translation in this setting.

# PLAIN LANGUAGE SUMMARY

# Improving the implementation of health-promoting policies and practices in workplaces



# The review question

Implementation strategies are meant to improve the adoption and integration of evidence-based health interventions into routine policies and practices within specific settings. This review examined whether using these strategies improved the implementation of policies and practices in the workplace promoting healthy eating, physical activity, weight control, tobacco cessation and prevention of risky alcohol consumption. We also wanted to know if these strategies changed employees' health behaviours, caused any unintended effects, and were good value for money.

# **Background**

Workplaces are a good setting for programmes that aim to improve health-related behaviours like diet, physical activity and tobacco use, as adults spend a long time at work each day. However, these kinds of workplace-based interventions are often poorly implemented, limiting their potential impact on employee health. Identifying strategies that are effective in improving the implementation of workplace-based interventions has the potential to increase their impact on chronic disease prevention.

# **Study characteristics**

We looked for studies that compared strategies to support the implementation of health-promoting policies and practices in workplaces versus either no implementation strategy or different implementation strategies. Implementation strategies could include quality improvement initiatives, education, and training, among others. They could target policies or practices directly instituted in the workplace (e.g. workplace healthy catering policy), as well as workplace-led efforts to encourage the use of external health promotion services (e.g. employee gym membership subsidies).

We found six eligible studies that investigated these strategies. Most took place in the USA, and workplaces were in the manufacturing, industrial and services-based sectors. The number of workplaces examined in the studies ranged from 12 to 114. Implementation strategies in the six studies targeted different workplace policies and practices: healthy catering; point-of-purchase nutrition labelling; environmental prompts and supports for healthy eating and physical activity; tobacco control policies; sponsorship of employee weight management programmes; and adherence to national guidelines for staff health promotion. All studies used multiple strategies to improve the implementation of these policies and practices, including: educational meetings, interventions tailored to the specific needs of the workplace, and workplace consensus processes to implement a policy or practice. Four studies compared implementation strategies versus no intervention, one study compared different implementation strategies, and one study compared two implementation strategies with each other and a control. Researchers used surveys, audits and observations in workplaces to evaluate the effect of the strategies on the implementation of workplace policies and practices.

### Search date

The evidence is current to 31 August 2017.

# **Key results**

When we combined findings from three studies, we did not find any difference in the level of implementation of health-promoting policies or practices between workplaces that received implementation strategy support versus those that did not, indicating that these strategies may make little to no difference. In the two trials comparing different implementation strategies, both reported improvements in implementation, favouring the more intensive implementation support group. Findings for effects on employee health behaviours were inconsistent and based on very low to low certainty evidence, so it is unclear whether the implementation strategies improved these outcomes. One of the included studies reported on cost, and none on the unintended adverse consequences of implementation strategies.

# **Certainty of evidence**

There were few included studies, and they used inconsistent terminology to describe implementation strategies, limiting the strength of the evidence. We rated the certainty of the evidence as low for the effect of implementation strategies on policy and practice implementation, based on four randomised studies (where groups are randomly assigned to different study groups), and very low based on two non-randomised studies. We also graded evidence on employee health behaviours and cost outcomes as low and very low. The findings of the review do not provide clear evidence regarding the impact of implementation strategies on workplace health-promoting policy and practice implementation or on employee health behaviours. Further research is needed.

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Summary of findings for the main comparison. Summary of findings: strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based health promotion versus no implementation strategy

Strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based health promotion versus no implementation strategy: findings from randomised controlled trials

Patient or population: workplace employees

Settings: any work setting, of any employment sector and geographical location, staffed by employees

Intervention: any strategy (e.g. educational materials; educational meetings; audit and feedback; local opinion leaders; tailored intervention) with the intention of improving the implementation of health-promoting policies or practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use in the workplace setting

**Comparison**: no intervention e.g. wait-list, usual practice or minimal support control (4 trials)

Summary of findings for the main comparison were based on included randomised trials only.

Outcomes	Anticipated absolute effects* (95% CI)		Relative effect (95% CI)	Number of par- ticipants (trials)	Certainty of the evidence (GRADE)	Comments
	Risk with no intervention	Risk with im- plementation interventions		,	(0.00.000)	
Implementa- tion of work- place-based policies or prac- tices targeting diet, physical activity, obesi- ty, tobacco use or alcohol use	The mean implementation score was 42.1 <sup>a</sup>	The implementation score in the intervention group was 0.1 lower (3.8 lower to 3.5 higher)	Scores estimated using a standardised mean difference of -0.01 (-0.32 to 0.30) and a standard deviation of 11.8 <sup>a</sup>	191 workplaces (3 RCTs)	⊕⊕⊝⊝ <b>Low</b> b,c	One RCT that compared a workplace cafeteria nutrition intervention to a wait-list control could not be synthesised in the meta-analysis (Bandoni 2010). The trial reported a significant improvement on the single primary measure of implementation included in the review.  One RCT reported additional dichotomous implementation outcomes that could not be synthesised in the meta-analysis (Biener 1999). The trial reported a significant improvement on 1 out of 3 implementation outcomes included in the review.
Employee di- etary intake	_	_	_	19,419 participants (2 RCTs)	⊕⊙⊝ <b>Very low</b> b,d,e	Mixed results were reported for this outcome. One RCT found a workplace cafeteria nutrition intervention effective in increasing fruit and vegetable consumption (Bandoni 2010). The other RCT found a worksite cancer control intervention effective in decreasing dietary intake of fat and increasing fruit and vegetable intake; however, it was not effective in increasing fibre consumption (Biener 1999).

Employee to- bacco use		-	18,205 participants	⊕⊕⊝⊝ <b>low</b> b,c	One RCT which compared a worksite cancer control intervention to a minimal support control group reported no effect on smoking prevalence or the proportion of smokers who quit (Biener 1999).
Employee physical activity, weight status, and alcohol use	No RCTs reported these outcomes.				
Cost or cost-ef- fectiveness		-	46 workplaces (1 RCT)	⊕⊕⊝⊝ <b>Low</b> c,f	One RCT reported an increase in employer costs in the implementation intervention group compared to the control group (Hannon 2012).
Unintended adverse effects	No RCTs reported this outcome.				

**GRADE** Working Group grades of evidence

High certainty: further research is very unlikely to change our confidence in the estimate of effect.

Moderate certainty: further research is likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and may change the estimate.

Low certainty: further research is very likely to have an important impact on our confidence in the estimate of effect and is likely to change the estimate.

**Very low certainty**: we are very uncertain about the estimate.

<sup>q</sup>We used the postintervention mean and standard deviation of the control group from Hannon 2012 for the risk with no intervention to re-express the SMD in terms of a mean implementation score.

<sup>b</sup>Downgraded one level for risk of bias – most information comes from studies at unclear or high risk of bias for most criteria.

<sup>c</sup>Downgraded one level for imprecision – sample size < 400.

<sup>d</sup>Downgraded one level for inconsistency – results in both directions.

eDowngraded one level for imprecision – the confidence intervals contained the null value and upper CI crosses SMD of 0.5.

Downgraded one level for high probability of publication bias – no other studies reported assessing cost-effectiveness, selective reporting suspected.



### BACKGROUND

# **Description of the condition**

Globally, approximately 40 million people die from chronic diseases each year (Haidong 2016). Some of the most prevalent modifiable risk factors for chronic disease are poor diet, physical inactivity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use (Lim 2012). Recent estimates across countries of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) indicate that 40% and 43% of adults, respectively, do not consume vegetables or fruit on a daily basis (OECD 2017). International research suggests that 31% of adults globally are physically inactive (Hallal 2012), 13% are obese (body mass index (BMI) of 30 kg/m² or more) (WHO 2016), and nearly one quarter (22%) smoke tobacco (WHO 2016). Moreover, the prevalence of heavy episodic alcohol use amongst adults is estimated to be 7.5% globally (WHO 2014). Cumulatively, these health risks represent a considerable burden to the community (Gakidou 2017).

The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified workplaces as valuable access points for providing interventions targeting chronic disease prevention (WHO 1981). As is the case in the community, modifiable, behavioural risk factors for chronic disease are prevalent in the workplace population, particularly among those with low-income occupations (Scollo 2015). Workplaces provide an opportunity to reach a large number of adults for prolonged periods each working day. In 2014 alone, adults from OECD countries spent an average 36.8 hours per week in paid employment (OECD 2015). Furthermore, workplaces have existing infrastructure to provide multi-level chronic disease prevention interventions to workers (Pelletier 2011). As such, interventions in this setting could make a significant contribution to population level reductions in chronic disease risk.

A number of systematic reviews and meta-analyses have been published in the last 10 years regarding the effectiveness of workplace interventions for influencing health behaviours (Anderson 2009; Barr-Anderson 2011; Benedict 2008; Cahill 2014; Fichtenberg 2002; Fishwick 2013; Freak-Poli 2013; Geaney 2013; Kahn-Marshall 2012; Maes 2012; Malik 2014; Mhurchu 2010; Rongen 2013; To 2013; Vuillemin 2011; Wong 2012). Reviews of workplace interventions targeting dietary behaviour have typically reported that such interventions yield modest improvements (Anderson 2009; Geaney 2013; Maes 2012; Mhurchu 2010), with similar results for interventions targeting tobacco use (Cahill 2014; Fichtenberg 2002; Fishwick 2013; Freak-Poli 2013). Reviews of interventions targeting physical inactivity (Barr-Anderson 2011; Malik 2014; To 2013; Vuillemin 2011; Wong 2012), obesity (Benedict 2008; Vuillemin 2011), and risky alcohol use (Ames 2011; Kolar 2015; Lee 2014) have reported mixed results, although such reviews have identified some effective programmes.

# **Description of the intervention**

Implementation of effective workplace interventions is required if they are to benefit public health (Bero 1998). 'Implementation' is defined as the use of strategies to adopt and integrate evidence-based health interventions to change practice patterns within specific settings (Glasgow 2012). Specifically, implementation research is the study of strategies designed to integrate health policies, practices or programmes within specific settings (e.g. workplaces) (Schillinger 2010). The US National Institutes of Health

recognises implementation research as a component of the third stage ('T3') of the research translation process and as being essential if health innovations are to generate health improvements in the community (Glasgow 2012).

There are a range of potential strategies that can improve the likelihood of implementation of interventions to address diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use. In health services research, for example, the Cochrane Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) Group has developed a taxonomy to characterise educational, behavioural, financial, regulatory and organisational strategies that can improve professional practice and health care (EPOC 2015). Specific implementation strategies included in the taxonomy include continuous quality improvement, educational materials, performance monitoring, local consensus processes and educational outreach visits (EPOC 2015). Schools (Nathan 2012), childcare services (Finch 2012; Jones 2015b), and sporting clubs (Kingsland 2015), among other settings, have utilised strategies to improve implementation of evidencebased health interventions, and these could similarly be applied to workplaces to improve implementation of chronic disease prevention policies and practices.

# How the intervention might work

Strategies that improve the implementation of workplace-based health related policies and practices may be effective if they address the determinants impeding implementation. However, the determinants of policy and practice implementation are complex. A number of factors can impede implementation of health promotion initiatives in the workplace settings (Cherniack 2010). For example, when the US National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention convened a workshop to advance utilisation of effective strategies to reduce chronic disease risks in the workplace, participants identified many barriers to worksite programme implementation (Sorensen 2011), including lack of employee interest, limited staff resources, cost, misalignment of incentives and insufficient support from management, while others have identified workplace financial, structural and cultural issues (Cherniack 2010). Moreover, theoretical implementation frameworks, including Damschroder's Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR) (Damschroder 2009), the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF) (Cane 2012) and the 'behaviour change wheel', also suggest that barriers to implementation are complex, operate at multiple levels and include individual, organisational, cultural, social, political and other macro-levels factors (Damschroder 2009; Michie 2011). Similarly, such frameworks suggest that a sound understanding of implementation context and barriers is required in order to correctly apply implementation frameworks and select strategies that best address the determinants of implementation (Michie 2008; Michie 2011).

# Why it is important to do this review

The lack of evidence regarding effective strategies to improve the implementation of health-promoting policies and practices in workplaces represents a significant gap in the health promotion and implementation science literature. Future workplace interventions will benefit significantly from a comprehensive review of strategies to improve the implementation of evidence-based interventions targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use. This review will provide a summary



of the current evidence base for health promotion practitioners, as well as other end-users including employers or insurers, regarding the design and implementation of interventions to promote healthy behaviours within workplaces.

### **OBJECTIVES**

To assess the effectiveness of strategies for improving the implementation of workplace-based policies or practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use.

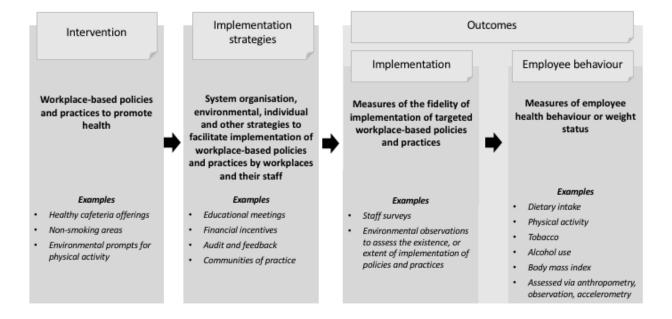
Secondary objectives were to:

- examine the impact of implementation strategies on employee health behaviours including diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use and alcohol use;
- · describe the cost or cost-effectiveness of such strategies; and
- describe any unintended adverse effects on workplaces or workplace staff.

Figure 1. Review logic model

# Review conceptual model

We developed this review based on the conceptual model of implementation research that Proctor 2009 proposed. In the logic model (Figure 1), it is first necessary to identify workplacebased interventions (policies or practices) to promote health, before then applying an implementation strategy to improve the likelihood of uptake and integration of the intervention into usual workplace practice ('implementation'). Implementation outcomes are used to assess the effects of the implementation strategy in achieving intervention implementation. The logic model assumes that intervention implementation is required for any benefits on individual employee health outcomes to be attributed to the intervention. The primary focus of the review, however, is the effects of implementation strategies on implementation outcomes. The model provides a broad logic to support evidence synthesis and interpretation and is not intended to represent a determinant or explanatory model of implementation interventions.



# **METHODS**

# Criteria for considering studies for this review

# **Types of studies**

A protocol prospectively describing the review methods has been previously published (Wolfenden 2016b).

Strategies to improve the implementation of policies or practices targeting settings-based health promotion are often complex in nature, and researchers have evaluated them using a wide variety of methods and designs in settings such as schools and childcare services (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017). While randomised controlled trials (RCTs) are considered to be the most reliable

and robust studies for establishing intervention effectiveness, applying this design in complex public health interventions is often impractical or inappropriate (Glasgow 1999). Consequently, we anticipated there would be a paucity of randomised trials relevant to the review question. To overcome this, we included any trial (randomised or non-randomised) with a parallel control group including the following trial designs.

- RCTs and cluster-RCTs.
- Quasi-RCTS and cluster quasi-RCTs.
- Controlled before-and-after trials (CBAs) and cluster-CBAs.

Trials assessing any strategy to improve the implementation of policies or practices in workplace settings targeting diet, physical



activity, obesity, tobacco use or alcohol use (or a combination of these) were eligible. To be included, trials were required to report the impact of a defined implementation strategy on an implementation outcome between experimental groups.

# **Types of participants**

We included trials undertaken in any workplace setting, in any location and country, staffed by paid employees (who may or may not have also included unpaid volunteers). Workplaces could be from any employment sector, for example: manufacturing, health, education, business, information technology, retail, agriculture, construction or mining. Participants in trials could be those representing organisations, paid employees at any level of the workplace organisation, or other officials or organisations who could influence the implementation of workplace health-promoting practices or policies. We excluded trials or arms of trials assessing implementation performed by research staff.

# Types of interventions

We included trials that compared a strategy designed to improve the implementation of workplace-based health-promoting policies and practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use versus either no intervention (i.e. waitlist, usual practice or minimal support control) or a different implementation strategy. To be eligible for inclusion, trials had to include strategies to improve implementation by those involved in the delivery, uptake or use of policies or practices in workplaces. Implementation strategies could include quality improvement initiatives, education and training, performance feedback, prompts and reminders, implementation resources, financial incentives, penalties, communication and social marketing strategies, professional networking, the use of opinion leaders or implementation consensus processes, as well as other strategies included in the Effective Practice and Organisation of Care (EPOC) taxonomy (EPOC 2015). Implementation strategies could employ a single strategy (e.g. the use of educational materials only) or be multi-component, employing several strategies (e.g. audit and feedback, educational materials and educational meetings). Additionally, implementation strategies could target policies and practices directly instituted in the workplace environment, as well as workplace-instituted efforts to encourage the use of external services to promote employee health behaviour change (e.g. workplace subsidies for employee gym memberships fees). We still included strategies to support the implementation of workplace policies and practices that did not clearly fit within the predefined EPOC implementation strategy subcategories, classifying them as 'other' strategies.

# Types of outcome measures

The review examined a range of primary and secondary outcomes relating to the implementation of workplace-based policies and practices for health promotion. We defined 'implementation' as the use of strategies to integrate evidence-based health interventions and to change practice patterns within specific settings (Glasgow 2012). We included implementation outcomes if they represented a measure of implementation fidelity, that is, a measure of delivery or execution of a workplace policy or practice. Such implementation outcomes typically represent assessments of the organisational environment, workplace policies, or professional behaviour of staff. To be included, outcomes had to report an action undertaken by a workplace or by workplace personnel. Outcomes could be

categorical (e.g. the presence or absence of smoke-free signage) or continuous (e.g. the number of healthy menu items in the workplace cafeteria). Implementation outcomes, expressed as a score, have been frequently reported in trials of implementation strategies in other settings (Alaimo 2015; Benjamin 2007; Saunders 2006; Sutherland 2017; Ward 2008). Often scores are derived by simply summing the number of targeted policies or practices that have been implemented (Jones 2015b); however, other tools combine items assessing implementation quality (e.g. a rating of how well a programme or policy was implemented), frequency (how often an organisational practice occurs) and other constructs such as duration (Naylor 2006; Perry 2004; Sallis 1997; Story 2000). We included any score-based measure of implementation. Implementation outcome measures were not required to report any psychometric properties to be included.

We did not consider measures of individual employee health behaviours (e.g. proportion of employees with dietary intakes consistent with nutrition guidelines) to be implementation outcomes. Implementation could have occurred at any scale (local, national or international) and include any length of follow-up of the implementation outcome. We included trials that reported only follow-up data of an implementation outcome (i.e. no baseline data) in instances where the trial utilised a randomised design, as baseline values were assumed to have been equivalent (or differ only due to chance).

# **Primary outcomes**

 Any objective or subjective (self-reported) measure of the implementation of a workplace policy or practice targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use or alcohol use.

Such measures could include, for example, the percentage of workplaces implementing a healthy catering policy, or the mean number of health-promoting practices implemented by workplaces to promote physical activity. Data on these outcomes could come from self-reports (e.g. completed by workplace staff), direct observations by researchers, audits of workplace records or the workplace environment, or audits of data collected by external organisations (e.g. parent company or government). We excluded indirect measures of implementation, such as an intention to implement a workplace policy or practice, or change in attitude towards the implementation of a workplace policy or practice.

# Secondary outcomes

We extracted data on secondary outcomes only for measures corresponding to reported implementation outcomes. For example, in a trial targeting workplace policies and practices to promote physical activity and healthy eating where trialists reported an implementation strategy and implementation outcome data only for the healthy eating aspect, we extracted secondary trial outcomes relating only to diet (e.g. foods or beverages consumed by workplace employees). Secondary outcomes could be measured objectively or subjectively (self-reported), and they included the following.

 Any measure of diet, physical activity (including sedentary behaviours), weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use. Such measures could be derived from any data source including direct observation, questionnaire, or anthropometric or biochemical assessments. We excluded studies examining malnutrition or malnourishment.



- Estimates of absolute costs or any assessment of the costeffectiveness of strategies to improve the implementation of policies or practices in workplaces.
- Any reported unintended adverse consequences of a strategy to improve the implementation of policies or practices in workplaces. This could include impacts on employee health (e.g. injury following the implementation of physical activity promoting practices), workplace operation or staff attitudes (e.g. impacts on staff motivation or cohesion).

# Search methods for identification of studies

We performed a comprehensive search for both published and unpublished peer-reviewed and grey literature by searching electronic databases, handsearching relevant journals and screening the reference lists of included trials. Articles published in any language were eligible, and there were no restrictions regarding article publication date.

### **Electronic searches**

We searched the following electronic databases.

- Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials (CENTRAL; 2017, Issue [8]) in the Cochrane Library (searched 31 August 2017);
- MEDLINE Ovid (1946 to 31 August 2017);
- MEDLINE In-Process & Other Non-Indexed Citations Ovid (1946 to 31 August 2017);
- The Campbell Library via Campbell website (2004 to 31 August 2017);
- PsycINFO Ovid (1806 to 31 August 2017);
- Education Resource Information Center (ERIC) Proquest (1966 to 31 August 2017);
- Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL) EBSCO (1937 to 31 August 2017);
- SCOPUS via Scopus website (1823 to 31 August 2017); and
- Dissertations and Theses (1743 to 21 September 2017).

We adapted the MEDLINE search strategy for each database using database-specific subject headings (Appendix 1). We included filters used in other systematic reviews for research design (Waters 2011), setting (Cahill 2014; Freak-Poli 2013), physical activity and healthy eating (Dobbins 2013; Guerra 2014; Jaime 2009), obesity (Waters 2011), tobacco use prevention (Thomas 2013), and alcohol misuse (Foxcroft 2011). We also used a search filter for intervention (implementation strategies) that had been employed in previous Cochrane Reviews (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017), and which was originally developed based on common terms in implementation and dissemination research (Rabin 2008; Rabin 2010).

# **Searching other resources**

We screened the reference lists of included trials to identify potentially relevant studies and contacted the authors of included trials for other potentially relevant studies. We handsearched all publications between August 2012 and September 2017 in *Implementation Science* and the *Journal of Translational Behavioral Medicine*. We also conducted searches of the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) (apps.who.int/trialsearch) up to 26 September 2017, as well as the US National Institutes of Health registry (clinicaltrials.gov) up to 21 September 2017.

We consulted with experts in the field to identify other relevant research and ongoing or unpublished trials and grey literature publications.

# **Data collection and analysis**

### **Selection of studies**

Two review authors (FS, AG, BP and TR) independently screened all titles and abstracts retrieved from the literature search using a standardised screening tool applied by the review team in previous systematic reviews (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017), which authors had developed based on the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* (Higgins 2011). We obtained full texts of all potentially relevant or unclear articles, and pairs of authors (FS, AG or SG) independently reviewed each article against the inclusion criteria. At each stage, we resolved disagreements by discussion and, where required, by consulting a third review author (LW). We recorded reasons for exclusion of trials in the Characteristics of excluded studies table.

# **Data extraction and management**

Pairs of review authors (SG, MF, SY, ABC, HTVZ, MK, CW, RH and JJ) independently extracted data using a data extraction form applied by the review team in previous systematic reviews (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017), which was adapted from the Cochrane Public Health Group Methods Manual (CPHG 2011). We resolved any disagreements in data extraction by discussion or by consulting a third author (LW) where required. Where key data were missing from the trial reports, we attempted to contact the authors to obtain such information. Where multiple reports of the same trial were published, we extracted data from those deemed the most applicable. We extracted data comprehensively to cover all relevant outcomes and methods reported across studies. Two review authors (SG, SY) independently undertook classification of implementation strategies against the EPOC criteria (EPOC 2015). A third reviewer (LW) helped to resolve disagreements in classification.

We extracted and reported the following study characteristics.

- Information regarding study design; date of publication; type of workplace; country; participant and workplace demographic and socioeconomic characteristics; number of experimental conditions; trial numbers and recruitment rate; and information to allow 'Risk of bias' assessment.
- Information describing the characteristics of the intervention (i.e. the policy or practice subject to implementation) and the implementation strategy; the theoretical underpinning of the intervention (if noted in the trial); and information to allow implementation strategy classification against the EPOC Group Taxonomy of Interventions (EPOC 2015).
- Information on trial primary and secondary outcomes including the data collection method; validity of measures used; unit of allocation and analysis; effect size (with 95% confidence interval and P value); and measures of outcome variability.
- Information on the source(s) of research funding and potential conflicts of interest.

# Assessment of risk of bias in included studies

The 'Risk of bias' assessment considered study design and reporting characteristics relevant to implementation outcomes of



included trials. We used the Cochrane 'Risk of bias' tool (Appendix 2), which includes assessments based on the following domains: selection bias, performance bias, detection bias, attrition bias, and reporting bias (Higgins 2011). We included an additional criterion, 'potential confounding', for assessing the risk of bias in non-randomised trial designs, as recommended in Chapter 13 of Higgins 2011, 'Including non-randomised studies'. We assessed trials as having low, high, or unclear risk of bias for each risk of bias assessment domain, in accordance with Chapter 8 of Higgins 2011, 'Assessing risk of bias in included studies'. Two authors (MK and CW) assessed risk of bias independently for each trial, resolving any disagreement by discussion, or if required, by consulting a third author (JJ). We assessed secondary (nonimplementation) outcomes of the review in the same manner as that for implementation outcomes, and as reported in Appendix 3. We included additional criteria for cluster-RCT designs in the assessment of these outcomes, including recruitment to cluster, baseline imbalance, loss of clusters, incorrect analysis, contamination and compatibility with individually randomised RCTs, in accordance with Chapter 16 of Higgins 2011, 'Special topics in statistics'.

### Measures of treatment effect

We performed meta-analysis of trials reporting score-based measures of implementation, expressing treatment effects as a standardised mean difference (SMD) with 95% confidence intervals (CI) given variability in instruments used to assess implementation. We interpreted the magnitude of effect size using the benchmarks suggested by Cohen, considering an SMD of 0.2 a small effect; 0.5 a medium effect; and 0.8 a large effect (Cohen 1988). We performed meta-analysis with Review Manager 5 (RevMan 5) software using data extracted (e.g. estimate of effect size and effect variability) from the trial reports and the generic inverse variance method using a random-effects model (Higgins 2011; RevMan 2014). We did not need to transform any data for inclusion in the analyses. We did not undertake pooled analyses for other continuous (non-score based) or dichotomous implementation outcomes given trial and outcome heterogeneity. For such trials, we reported measures of treatment effect as they were presented in the original manuscripts and synthesised them narratively.

# Unit of analysis issues

# **Clustered studies**

Within included trials, the appropriate unit of analysis could vary depending on the outcome reported. For implementation outcomes, workplaces were often the unit of allocation and analysis. However, for secondary outcomes such as measures of employee health behaviours, allocation at the workplace level and collection of data at the individual level (i.e. employees) was common. We examined all trials using cluster designs for any outcome for unit of analysis errors. We identified one trial, Bandoni 2010, that had not appropriately adjusted for clustering in the analysis of secondary trial outcomes, and we noted this in the 'Characteristics of included studies' table.

# Studies with more than one treatment group

Two included trials had more than one treatment arm for assessment of implementation outcomes (Jones 2015; Parker 2010). Neither of the trials contributed to meta-analysis, and we

described the effects of the intervention across treatment arms narratively.

# Dealing with missing data

In instances where data pertaining to trial participants, interventions, outcomes, results or methods were missing or unclear, we contacted the corresponding authors of the published trial to supply such information, including any additional information provided in the review as appropriate. We documented any evidence of potential selective reporting or incomplete reporting of trial data in the 'Risk of bias' tables.

### Assessment of heterogeneity

For implementation outcomes pooled in the quantitative synthesis, we assessed heterogeneity by first visually inspecting forest plots for the extent to which CIs overlapped. Second, we conducted Chi² tests, considering a P value of less than 0.05 to indicate statistical heterogeneity. Finally, we calculated the I² statistic, considering an I² value of more than 50% indicative of substantial heterogeneity. In these cases, review authors discussed the appropriateness of metanalysis until reaching a consensus. We did not perform metanalysis when the I² statistic was more than 90%. Given the limited number of trials included in the meta-analysis, we were unable to explore heterogeneity through subgroup analyses.

# **Assessment of reporting biases**

Given the small number of included trials, we were not able to generate a funnel plot to visually inspect for asymmetry. We therefore assessed reporting bias by comparing published reports with information in trial registers and protocols, where such information was available. Where we suspected reporting bias (via assessment of risk of bias in included studies), we attempted to contact study authors and ask them to provide missing outcome data. We recorded instances of potential reporting bias in the 'Risk of bias' summary.

# **Data synthesis**

Consistent with the approach of previous Cochrane Reviews on implementation strategies in the childcare and school setting (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017), we synthesised trial findings based on the outcomes and comparisons reported. We narratively synthesised findings for all included trials by firstly describing trial characteristics, participants, interventions and outcomes. We then described the effects of implementation strategies for individual trials by reporting the effect size of the primary implementation outcomes. We focused on specified primary outcomes where available, as the intervention (implementation strategy) was designed to directly influence this outcome, and thus trials (should have been) powered to detect meaningful effects on these measures. Furthermore, pre-specified primary (as opposed to secondary) outcomes are considered most appropriate for hypothesis testing. For trials with multiple follow-up periods, we used data from the final follow-up period reported.

We performed meta-analysis where trials were reasonably homogeneous and contained equivalent research designs (e.g. randomised trials) and comparable outcomes measures and comparisons. We conducted meta-analysis using RevMan 2014 software. We selected reported study estimates that adjusted for potential confounding variables for inclusion in meta-analysis over



reported estimates that did not adjust for potential confounding variables. We pooled data from primary implementation outcomes reported in trials. Where the trial authors in the published manuscripts did not identify a primary outcome measure, we assumed it was the implementation outcome they had used in the trial sample size calculation. In its absence, for trials reporting subscales of an overall implementation score (in addition to a total scale score), we used the total score as the primary outcome to provide a more comprehensive measure of implementation. When a trial reported a large number of implementation outcomes but without an identified primary outcome, we calculated standardised ('d') measures of effect size for each outcome, we ranked measures based on their size of effect, and we used the measure at the median.

# Subgroup analysis and investigation of heterogeneity

We could not conduct quantitative examination of heterogeneity because there were only three trials in pooled analysis. We described the characteristics of included trials according to population, intervention, comparison, outcome and study design to establish clinical and methodological heterogeneity across included trials narratively. We used a threshold of implementation across 50 or more workplaces to represent implementation 'at scale' consistent with other reviews (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017); however, as no trials included interventions delivered to 50 or more workplaces, we did not perform subgroup analyses based on the scale of implementation.

# **Sensitivity analysis**

Given the small number of trials included in the meta-analysis and the low I<sup>2</sup> and lack of statistical heterogeneity, we did not perform sensitivity analysis by removing studies with a high risk of bias.

# 'Summary of findings' table

We generated a 'Summary of findings' table to present the key findings of included studies (see Summary of findings for the main comparison), based on recommendations of the Cochrane EPOC group and the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* (Higgins 2011). This included a list of primary and secondary outcomes in the review, a description of the intervention effect, the number of participants and trials addressing the outcome, and a grade for the overall certainty of evidence. We produced the 'Summary of findings' table for studies of RCT design

only, which produced a comparison between an implementation intervention and a no-intervention control (i.e. wait-list, usual practice or minimal support control).

We graded the certainty of the body of evidence for each individual outcome from high to very low in accordance with the *Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions* (Higgins 2011). We conducted separate GRADE assessments for randomised trials that compared an implementation intervention versus no intervention and for non-randomised trials that compared an implementation intervention versus an alternate intervention. Two review authors (RH and LW) used the GRADE system to independently assess the certainty of the body of evidence through consideration of study limitations, consistency of effect, imprecision, indirectness and publication bias. When these authors could not reach a consensus, a third review author (JJ) was consulted to resolve discrepancies.

### RESULTS

# **Description of studies**

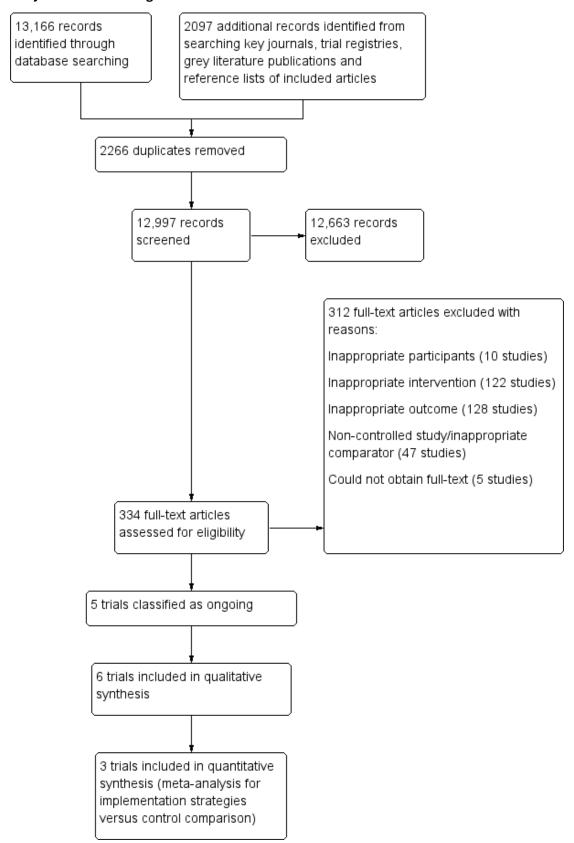
See Characteristics of included studies; Table 1 and Table 2: 'Summary of workplace settings, interventions, outcomes and effects for included trials'; Characteristics of excluded studies; and Characteristics of ongoing studies.

# Results of the search

The Characteristics of included studies tables present full details for each of the included trials, and Table 1 and Table 2 contain a summary of workplace settings, interventions, outcomes and effects. We report reasons for excluding trials at full-text review in the Characteristics of excluded studies table, and we identify eligible ongoing trials in the Characteristics of ongoing studies table. The electronic search conducted to 31 August 2017 yielded 13,166 records (Figure 2). Additionally, we identified a further 2097 records from other sources. Following screening of titles and abstracts, we obtained the full-texts of 334 articles for further review. We initially identified 16 individual trials as eligible for inclusion in the review. Of these, 5 trials (described in 6 articles) were ongoing studies, so we designated 11 trials to undergo data extraction. However, we later excluded five of these trials during data extraction after further review revealed them as ineligible (all based on inappropriate outcomes). We finally included six individual trials (described in 16 articles) in the review.



Figure 2. Study selection flow diagram.





We contacted the authors of five included trials to obtain additional information on participants, interventions and outcomes where such information was unclear or missing. We reported specific information that trial authors provided in the Characteristics of included studies table for respective trials. We also contacted the authors of two ongoing trials with published baseline or protocol papers regarding the availability of follow-up data. At the time of contact, both authors indicated follow-up data were not yet available, so we listed these trials as ongoing studies in the review.

# **Included studies**

### Types of studies

Four trials were in the USA (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010), one in England (Jones 2015), and one in Brazil (Bandoni 2010). Trials took place between 1990 and 2013. Four employed RCT designs in the assessment of implementation outcomes (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012), and the remaining two trials were non-RCT designs (Jones 2015; Parker 2010). Trial designs used to evaluate implementation outcomes differed at times from those used to assess behavioural impacts of interventions on employees. For example, Bandoni 2010 assessed workplace level implementation outcomes (RCT design), as well as the impact of the intervention on individual employee outcomes located within workplaces (cluster-RCT design). Trials varied in the types of participants, implementation strategies and outcomes reported.

# **Participants**

The number of workplaces involved ranged from 12 in Parker 2010 to 114 in Biener 1999; however, four of the six trials included fewer than 50 workplaces (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010). Biener 1999 and Jones 2015 allocated 50 or more workplaces to the intervention condition (implementation strategies); however, for both trials, we could extract implementation outcomes for the review for fewer than 50 workplaces. Trials were in workplaces from the manufacturing and industrial sector (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010), as well the services sector (health, education, retail, public service and personal and household services) (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Jones 2015). One trial took place in specifically low-wage workplaces (Hannon 2012), whilst trial authors classified employees as predominantly blue-collar workers in a further three trials (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Parker 2010). Most employees were men in three trials (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999; Parker 2010), whereas in two trials the proportion of male and female employees was approximately equal (Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012). In three trials most employees were white (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Parker 2010), whilst one trial included a significant proportion (39%) of employees from ethnic minority groups (Hannon 2012), and one trial was conducted in a non-white population (Brazil) (Bandoni 2010). Jones 2015 did not describe the socioeconomic or demographic characteristics of workplace employees or the workplace locality.

# Interventions

All trials examined multi-component implementation strategies (i.e. interventions using multiple implementation strategies). Table 3 shows the EPOC taxonomy descriptors for implementation strategies employed by included trials. The policies and practices

within workplaces targeted by implementation strategies included: the availability of healthy food options (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010); healthy catering policies (Biener 1999; Parker 2010); point-of-purchase nutrition labelling (Biener 1999); environmental prompts for healthy eating and physical activity such as posters and signs (Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010); environmental supports for physical activity such as bike racks and fitness equipment (Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010); tobacco control policies (Biener 1999; Hannon 2012); sponsorship of weight management programmes (Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010); and adherence to national guidelines for staff health promotion (Jones 2015). The most common implementation strategies included educational meetings, tailored intervention and local consensus processes, all employed by four trials each. No two trials examined the same combination of implementation strategies. The duration of implementation support ranged from six months in Bandoni 2010 to two years in Biener 1999. Four trials reported using theoretical, practical or conceptual frameworks including the Ecological Model for Health Promotion (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999), Social Ecological Theory (Parker 2010), and Rogers's Diffusion of Innovations Theory (Hannon 2012); however, these were described in the context of informing workplace health promotion activities rather than a framework to guide the implementation intervention. Two trials reported the use of a theory or framework to guide implementation strategies, specifically the Theoretical Domains Framework, described in Jones 2015, and Rothman's Community Activation Principles, described in Biener 1999.

One trial targeted the implementation of workplace policies or practices for diet only (Bandoni 2010); one trial targeted policies or practices for both diet and tobacco use (Biener 1999); two trials targeted policies or practices for diet, physical activity and weight control (Beresford 2010; Parker 2010); and two trials conducted interventions to increase the implementation of workplace policies or practices targeting other health behaviours in addition to those of focus in the review (Hannon 2012; Jones 2015). Specifically, Hannon 2012 provided support to improve the implementation of workplace policies and practices for diet, physical activity, weight control and tobacco use in addition to workplace sun exposure, benefits for preventive care and health screening, and immunisation. In Jones 2015, implementation support targeted workplace policies for diet, physical activity, weight control and tobacco use, in addition to mental health and the management of long-term sickness and absence. Both trials reported implementation outcomes as a combined measure for all health factors, so we report them as such in the review. No trial targeted workplace policies and practices for reducing risky alcohol consumption.

# Types of comparisons

Three trials compared implementation strategies against a wait-list control in which usual practice continued during the study period (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Hannon 2012), and one trial used a minimal support comparison group where workplaces received feedback from the results of an employee survey in addition to printed materials such as posters (Biener 1999).

Two trials reported comparisons including more than one implementation intervention group (Jones 2015; Parker 2010). Parker 2010 compared two intervention conditions of varying implementation support intensity against a wait-list control



group where workplaces were instructed not to introduce new environmental health promotion initiatives during the study period. Senior company leaders allocated workplaces to control or intervention groups; however, within those selected for the intervention group, workplaces were allocated to one of two conditions randomly via coin toss. Therefore this trial employed a non-randomised design for comparisons between the control and implementation intervention arms, whilst comparisons between implementation intervention arms made use of a randomised design.

Jones 2015 selectively assigned workplaces to three cohorts (A, B and C) and one sub-cohort (C1) according to baseline scores in a workplace organisational audit measuring the implementation of health promotion guidelines. Workplaces demonstrating good progress in implementation were assigned to cohort A and received feedback on audit performance in addition to undergoing interviews to elicit information about organisational barriers and facilitators to guideline implementation ('feedback and interviews'). Workplaces identified as demonstrating less progress in implementation were assigned to cohort B, and they received feedback plus action planning workshops informed by knowledge on barriers and facilitators to implementation, as derived from the interviews with cohort A ('feedback and workshops'). Remaining workplaces were assigned to cohort C and received audit performance feedback alone ('feedback only'). The sub-cohort C1 included workplaces receiving 'feedback only' that had demonstrated poor performance in the baseline audit, comparable to cohort B. As interviews conducted with cohort A provided no direct implementation support to this cohort and were used only to inform action planning workshops for cohort B, this cohort was excluded from analyses. Subsequently, for the assessment of implementation outcomes we included comparisons of cohorts B and C1 only, based on comparability of baseline implementation scores in the organisational audit (both poor performing) and the use of different implementation support approaches - 'feedback only' versus 'feedback and workshops'.

# **Outcomes**

Two trials collected follow-up data on implementation outcomes at two years postbaseline (Beresford 2010; Parker 2010); two trials at three years (Biener 1999; Jones 2015); one trial at 6 months (Bandoni 2010); and one trial at 15 months (Hannon 2012). Three trials used surveys (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012), and one, organisational audits (Jones 2015), to assess implementation outcomes, but they did not report on the validity of these instruments in assessing implementation outcomes. Two trials used observation-based measures to assess implementation outcomes, including an environmental assessment checklist in Beresford 2010 and a validated environmental assessment tool in Parker 2010.

Three trials assessed employee dietary behaviours: two measured dietary outcomes using non-validated surveys (Bandoni 2010; Parker 2010), and one used a validated food frequency questionnaire (Biener 1999). One trial assessed employee tobacco use using a non-validated survey (Biener 1999). Only one trial assessed employee physical activity and weight status (Parker 2010), measuring weight objectively using standardised protocols and physical activity using a non-validated survey. No trial reported relevant outcomes relating to employee alcohol use. Hannon 2012 was the only included trial to report cost-related outcomes

for implementing workplace policies or practices, measured via survey of contract costs and personal hours. No trial reported adverse outcomes associated with the implementation of polices or practices in workplaces.

# Other study design characteristics

For some trials, decisions regarding the extraction of implementation outcomes were particularly complex. In the Working Well trial (Biener 1999), the implementation of workplace policies and practices targeting tobacco control and the promotion of healthy eating were measured using a number of outcomes assessed across two surveys with employees and organisational informants. However, several of these measures did not provide a direct assessment of implementation (e.g. measuring 'intentions' to implement a policy or practice), and so such measures were excluded from the review.

Parker 2010 reported effects of the workplace intervention on employee tobacco use as well as risky alcohol use. However, as the implementation strategy and policies and practices targeted by the intervention did not include those addressing tobacco and alcohol use, we could not include the effects of the intervention on these health behaviours in the review.

Finally, two trials conducted interventions to increase the implementation of workplace policies or practices targeting other health behaviours in addition to those of interest to the review (Hannon 2012; Jones 2015). Both trials used composite score-based measures of implementation outcomes, and it was not possible to isolate the impact of the strategy on implementation outcomes for diet, physical activity, weight control and tobacco use policies and practices alone. However, as most of the policies and practices targeted by the implementation (and reflected in the score) were for the health behaviours specified within the scope of the review, the trials were retained and outcome data included.

# **Excluded studies**

Following screening of titles and abstracts, we obtained the full texts of 334 articles for further assessment of eligibility (Figure 2). Of these, 312 articles were considered ineligible. Reasons for exclusion included inappropriate participants (10 studies); inappropriate intervention (122 studies); inappropriate outcome (128 studies); non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator (47 studies); and inability to obtain full-text article (5 studies). We excluded studies based on inappropriate outcomes if they: did not report any implementation outcomes; did not report implementation outcomes for both intervention and control groups; did not report between group differences in implementation outcomes; or reported an indirect measure of implementation (e.g. trials reporting the intention to implement a workplace policy or practice). We excluded five trials at the data extraction stage, all on the basis of inappropriate outcomes.

# Risk of bias in included studies

We present the combined results of the 'Risk of bias' assessment across all trials in Figure 3 and for each individual trial in Figure 4. Assessment considered study design and reporting characteristics relevant to the implementation outcomes of included trials. We judged most trials to be at high risk of performance and detection bias and at unclear risk of attrition and reporting bias. We considered both non-randomised trials to be at high risk of



selection bias (Jones 2015; Parker 2010), whilst we deemed the risk of potential confounding to be high and low, respectively. The other four trials were at low risk of bias from other sources.

We also assessed risk of bias for secondary outcomes (employee health behaviours and cost-measures); Appendix 3 presents these judgements.

Figure 3. Risk of bias graph: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item presented as percentages across all included studies.

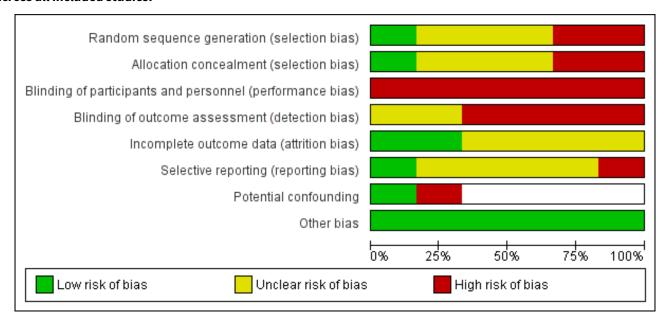
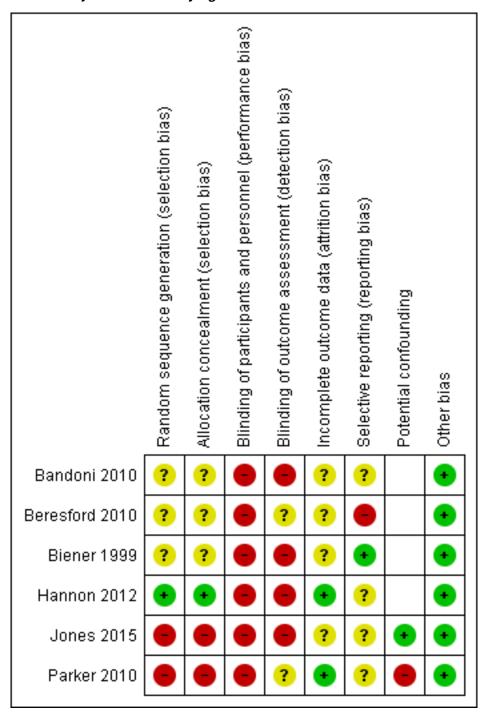




Figure 4. Risk of bias summary: review authors' judgements about each risk of bias item for each included study.



# Allocation

Risk of selection bias differed across the six trials. We considered the two non-randomised trials to be at high risk of selection bias for both random sequence generation and allocation concealment (Jones 2015; Parker 2010). Of the four trials with RCT designs, we considered one to be at low risk for random sequence generation and allocation concealment, as a statistician undertook block randomisation (Hannon 2012). For the other three RCTs (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999), risk of bias associated with

sequence generation and concealment of allocation was unclear, as authors reported no information on these processes.

# **Blinding**

We considered all six trials to be at high risk of performance bias due to participants and research personnel not being blind to group allocation. Four trials were at high risk of detection bias as data collection was via self-reported surveys undertaken by participants who were not blind to group allocation (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Jones 2015). For the other two



trials (Beresford 2010; Parker 2010), the risk of detection bias was unclear; although outcome assessment was undertaken via observations or environment audits, assessors were not blind to group allocation.

# Incomplete outcome data

For two of the trials, we rated the risk of attrition bias as low, as data were either collected for all sites at follow-up (Parker 2010) or there was no difference between groups in the number of sites lost to follow-up (Hannon 2012). For the other four trials (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Jones 2015), risk of attrition bias was unclear as there was either a difference between groups in data attrition and a lack of information about whether analysis followed the intention-to-treat principle, or a general lack of information regarding the completeness of outcome data.

# **Selective reporting**

We rated Beresford 2010 as being at high risk for reporting bias, as the publication did not report planned outcomes related to physical activity and diet. Biener 1999 was at low risk for reporting bias because the article reported all a priori published outcomes. For the remaining four trials (Bandoni 2010; Hannon 2012; Jones 2015; Parker 2010), risk of reporting bias was unclear, as we could not identify a priori registration of outcomes (via trial registration or publication of a study protocol or design paper).

# Other potential sources of bias

Of the two trials with non-randomised designs, we considered one to be at high risk of bias, as the analyses did not adjust for potential confounders (Parker 2010). For the other non-randomised trial (Jones 2015), we rated risk of bias due to confounding factors as

low, as the outcome analyses included an adjustment for baseline differences between the groups. For the remaining four trials (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012), we considered bias from other sources to be low.

### **Effects of interventions**

See: Summary of findings for the main comparison Summary of findings: strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based health promotion versus no implementation strategy

# **Effects on implementation outcomes**

1. Implementation strategies versus no intervention (wait-list, usual practice or minimal support controls)

### **Continous outcomes**

### Implementation score

Four trials utilised score-based measures of implementation outcomes (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010), three of which were randomised trials (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012). Meta-analysis of the randomised trials showed no difference in the standardised mean difference (SMD) for implementation outcomes (SMD -0.01, 95% CI -0.32 to 0.30, P=0.97; 164 participants; 3 studies; low certainty evidence), with no evidence of heterogeneity ( $I^2=0\%$ ; Chi $^2=0.89$ ). A difference of this magnitude (-0.01) can be interpreted as a 'small' effect based on Cohen's effect size classification (Cohen 1988), suggesting little to no benefit of implementation support in improving policy or practice implementation relative to control. Figure 5 presents forest plots of the trial effects. Given the limited number of trials included in the meta-analysis, we were unable to undertake subgroup analyses as planned.

Figure 5. Forest plot of comparison: 1 Implementation strategy versus control, outcome: 1.1 Implementation score.

			Experimental	Control		Std. Mean Difference	Std. Mean Difference
Study or Subgroup	Std. Mean Difference	SE	Total	l Total	Weight	IV, Random, 95% CI	IV, Random, 95% CI
Beresford 2010	0.0915	0.3432	17	17	20.8%	0.09 [-0.58, 0.76]	
Biener 1999	0.0758	0.2183	42	. 42	51.3%	0.08 [-0.35, 0.50]	<del></del> -
Hannon 2012	-0.2478	0.2961	23	3 23	27.9%	-0.25 [-0.83, 0.33]	
Total (95% CI)			82	82	100.0%	-0.01 [-0.32, 0.30]	
Heterogeneity: Tau $^2$ = 0.00; Chi $^2$ = 0.89, df = 2 (P = 0.64); Test for overall effect: Z = 0.07 (P = 0.94)			4); I² = 0%				-1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 Favours Control Favours Intervention

In the Physical Activity and Changes in Eating (PACE) randomised trial, Beresford 2010 examined a 15- to 17-month strategy to implement a workplace intervention aiming to improve physical activity and nutritional choices to reduce or maintain weight in workplaces with a high proportion of sedentary employees. Support strategies provided to the intervention group (17 workplaces; n employees not reported) were informed by focus groups conducted with workplaces to identify implementation barriers (tailored intervention). A workplace contact person was nominated, and an employee advisory board (EAB) consisting of 4 to 7 employees was established at each intervention workplace to work with the research team to design, plan and implement intervention activities (local opinion leaders), as well as with the senior management to secure commitment for ongoing health promotion in the workplace (local consensus process). EAB members received a handbook outlining the intervention framework and a number of intervention activities that could be tailored to their workplaces (educational materials).

The wait-list control group (7 workplaces; n employees not reported) received support following trial completion. Research staff assessed implementation outcomes at baseline and two years postbaseline using an environment assessment (EA) checklist during an inspection of the workplace. Authors did not report the psychometric properties of the EA checklist; however, observation represents an objective measure of the workplace environment. Checklist items included 11 practices promoting healthy eating, physical activity and weight control related to the physical environment (e.g. provisions for bikes and healthy options in vending machines), information environment (e.g. posters encouraging stair usage), and worksite resources (e.g. availability of weight control programmes). Checklist items measuring implementation of each practice were combined into a score and standardised for the size of the company (specific procedure not reported), with higher scores indicative of better implementation. At follow-up, there were no significant differences between groups in scores for 9 of the 11 practices assessed;



however, scores were significantly higher for the intervention group for practices regarding display of notices promoting physical activity (adjusted effect estimate 0.33, 95% CI 0.00 to 0.85) and a healthy diet (adjusted effect estimate 0.40, 95% CI 0.00 to 1.46). The effect sizes across the 11 practices ranged from -0.56 (95% CI -1.57 to 1.61) to 0.60 (95% CI -5.40 to 5.60). When standardised intervention effects were ranked for each measure, the median effect used in the meta-analysis was 0.10 (95% CI -8.10 to 9.60).

In the Working Well randomised trial, Biener 1999 tested the effects of an intervention to implement a range of workplace policies and practices to promote access to healthy foods, restrict smoking, and promote social norms supportive of having a healthy diet and not smoking. Implementation support provided to the intervention group (55 workplaces; 8914 employees) occurred over two years and comprised participatory approaches whereby employees at each intervention workplace functioned as an employee advisory board (EAB), working in partnership with researchers to plan and undertake changes to the workplace, as well as tailor interventions to suit local workplaces (local opinion leaders). Additionally, the EAB liaised with management to develop and implement new policies (local consensus process). EAB members received training (educational meetings), and workplace visits from researchers took place at least once a month to support implementation (educational outreach visits). The control group (56 workplaces, 9291 employees) received minimal support comprising printed health promotional materials. Investigators measured implementation outcomes for tobaccorelated policies and practices via two items included in an employee survey (validity not reported) conducted at baseline and postintervention (approximately 3 years postbaseline). The items assessed 'restrictiveness of tobacco control policy' (1 = low restrictiveness i.e. no tobacco control policy; 4 = high restrictiveness i.e. smoking is not allowed anywhere in the workplace) and 'adherence to tobacco control policy' (1 = low adherence i.e. people frequently smoke where smoking is prohibited; 5 = high adherence i.e. people never smoke where smoking is prohibited). At followup, there were no significant differences in the change in mean score for the restrictiveness of workplace smoking policy (adjusted difference 0.01, standard error (SE) 0.09) or the adherence to workplace smoking policy (adjusted difference 0.03, SE 0.07).

Hannon 2012 conducted a randomised trial to assess the impact of the Workplace Solutions programme for improving the implementation of 16 best practices for workplace health promotion recommended in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) Community Guide. Eight of the practices specifically targeted diet, physical activity, weight control or smoking cessation. The intervention group (24 workplaces, n employees not reported) received a feedback report detailing recommendations for improving any of the 16 best practices that employers were not fully implementing (clinical practice guidelines and audit and feedback). The project interventionist worked with employers to nominate 3 to 5 best practices to implement over the following 12 months (local consensus process), conducting three in-person meetings at workplaces (educational outreach) and providing support resources including implementation tool kits (educational materials). Additionally, at the intervention mid-point (six months), the project interventionist asked employers about their progress in implementing each of their chosen best practices and offered guidance for overcoming identified implementation

barriers (tailored intervention). The control group (24 workplaces, n employees not reported) received two newsletters detailing trial progress and were offered the intervention at trial completion. Investigators evaluated baseline and 15 months' postbaseline implementation of the 16 best practices via a score derived from a self-reported survey (validity not reported) completed by a human resources leader at each workplace. Survey items assessing best practice implementation were scored using a binary system for some items (0 = the practice was not implemented; 1 = the practice was implemented) or on a 3-point scale (0 = not implemented; 0.75 = partially implemented; 1 = fully implemented) for others. For each best practice, trialists calculated a summary score by dividing the sum of item scores by the number of items. The total best practice score represented the mean of the sum of scores of each individual best practice, with higher scores indicating better implementation. At follow-up, there were no significant differences between groups in total best practice implementation score: intervention group baseline 31.50 (standard deviation (SD) 8.30), follow-up 39.20 (SD 11.20); versus control group baseline 36.8 (SD 11.70), follow-up 42.1 (SD 11.80), P = 0.33.

Finally, the one non-randomised trial that reported a continuous implementation score, the Dow Chemical study, provided very low certainty evidence (Parker 2010). The study tested the effectiveness of an intervention to improve the implementation of workplace policies and practices promoting healthy eating, physical activity and weight control. The intervention group received one of either two implementation support conditions: moderate (4 workplaces, 382 employees) or high intensity (5 workplaces, 1520 employees), whilst the control group (3 workplaces; 529 employees) received instructions not to introduce new environmental health promotion initiatives during the study period. Workplaces in moderate- and high-intensity groups were asked to implement a range of predominantly environmental interventions (e.g. signed walking paths), and were consulted by the research team to identify potential barriers to implementation, as well as interventions that would be most suited to the workplace context (tailored intervention). Research staff trained workplace 'wellness ambassadors' (educational meetings) who were designated to carry out tasks such as promoting healthy food choices at workplace meetings and events, and organising health promotion posters and messages in the workplace (local opinion leaders). In addition to the environmental intervention, five workplaces allocated to the highintensity support group received support strategies designed to influence organisational culture and boost leadership commitment to employee health. Managers received training on health-related topics and ways to improve employee participation in health promotion initiatives (educational meetings). Progress reports regarding health promotion and project implementation were provided to site and corporate leaders (audit and feedback), and health promotion-related goals were included in the organisational plans of site leaders (local consensus process). Site leaders were held accountable to corporate leaders for making progress toward health-related goals (monitoring of performance) and were recognised and rewarded for achieving such goals (other strategy). Implementation outcome data were assessed using a score derived from a validated 105-item Environmental Assessment Tool (EAT), which comprised a questionnaire component that site staff completed and an on-site observation component that the research team performed. Trial authors used a scoring rubric to aggregate the EAT responses into a total score (out of 100 points).



The precise scoring system was not reported; however, higher scores were indicative of greater levels of environmental support for health-promotion within workplaces. Compared to control, there were significant improvements in total EAT scores at two-year follow-up for workplaces receiving the moderate-intensity (contrast estimate 9.68, SE 3.48, P = 0.009) and high-intensity (contrast estimate 16.99, SE 3.37, P < 0.001) interventions.

### Other continuous implementation outcomes

One RCT reported other continuous measures of implementation that could not be synthesised in the meta-analysis (Bandoni 2010). This trial evaluated the impact of an educational and environmental intervention on the availability and consumption of fruits and vegetables in the cafeterias of 30 industrial sector workplaces in Brazil. The intervention group (15 workplaces, 630 employees) received resources including a manual and nutrition guidelines (educational materials), which trialists presented to cafeteria managers and discussed with them. Workplace cooks and cafeteria assistants also took part in culinary workshops (educational meetings) to support increasing fruit and vegetable availability in cafeteria meals. The control group (14 workplaces, 584 employees) received implementation support post-trial. The primary implementation outcome of the trial was the grams of fruits and vegetables served by workplace cafeterias to employees in lunch meals, measured at baseline and six months postbaseline via food service managers' recordings of the types and quantities of foods served in the workplace cafeteria over three successive days (validity not reported). Based on food service managers' reports, the quantities of fruits and vegetables per customer were calculated to assess the availability of fruit and vegetables in lunch meals. Relative to controls, intervention workplaces offered significantly more grams of fruits and vegetables in cafeteria meals at follow-up (adjusted mean difference (MD) 49.05 g, 95% CI 8.38 to 89.71; low certainty evidence).

### **Dichotomous outcomes**

Only one trial, the Working Well randomised trial, reported dichotomous implementation outcomes (Biener 1999). Outcomes included the proportion of workplaces implementing practices to promote healthy eating, including cafeteria and vending machine nutrition labelling and a healthy catering policy. Outcome assessment was via an organisational informant survey of organisational representatives (validity not reported), conducted at baseline and postintervention (approximately 3 years postbaseline). Compared to controls, changes were found in the proportion of intervention workplaces that reported improvements in cafeteria point-of-purchase nutrition labelling (MD 13.40%, P = 0.72), vending machine nutrition labelling (MD 39.60%, P < 0.01), and workplace healthy catering policy (MD 10.90%, P = 0.30) (low certainty evidence). However, only for labelling of vending machines was this statistically significant.

# 2. Comparisons of different implementation strategies

Two included trials, both non-randomised, provided very low certainty evidence regarding the effects of different implementation strategies on implementation outcomes (Jones 2015; Parker 2010). Both trials reported a significant effect on the single measure of implementation included, favouring the group that received the higher intensity implementation support.

### **Continous outcomes**

### Implementation score

Parker 2010 employed a randomised design to examine the comparative effectiveness of two different levels of implementation support intensity (moderate or high) to improve implementation of a range of practices targeting healthy eating, physical activity and weight control. At follow-up, the total EAT score assessing implementation of the health-promoting practices was significantly higher among the five workplaces that received the high-intensity support condition (tailored intervention; local opinion leaders; educational meetings; audit and feedback; local consensus process; monitoring of performance; and 'other' strategy) compared to the four workplaces that received moderate-intensity support (tailored intervention; local opinion leaders and educational meetings) (contrast estimate 7.31, SE 3.10, P = 0.024).

Jones 2015 compared two approaches to improve the implementation of National Institute for Health Care and Excellence (NICE) public health workplace-related guidance by National Health Service (NHS) trusts in England. Two of the four study cohorts included in the trial were comparable at baseline: cohort B (36 workplaces, n employees not reported) and cohort C1 (26 workplaces, n employees not reported), and we extracted data from these cohorts to assess effects of implementation strategies in the review. In both cohorts, trusts completed an organisational audit to assess the extent of implementation of the NICE public health workplace-related guidance (clinical practice guidelines) within their trust and received a feedback report regarding implementation performance against a national benchmark (audit and feedback). In addition to this, trusts in cohort B attended action planning workshops (educational meetings) developed using data on barriers to implementation (tailored intervention) derived from interviews undertaken with trusts to support better engagement and implementation of the NICE guidance. The primary implementation outcome was the total score on an organisational audit questionnaire completed by workplace staff (validity not reported), which assessed implementation of six sets of NICE guidance pertaining to obesity prevention, smoking cessation, physical activity, management of long-term sickness, and mental health. Total audit scores were devised by applying weighted scores to audit responses and then transforming them into a score on a 100-point scale, with higher scores indicating better implementation of the guidance. It was not possible to disaggregate scores for the implementation of policies and practices related to each specific set of the guidance; however, the median total score on the audit significantly increased among trusts in cohort B compared with cohort C1 (22.17 versus 4.94, P < 0.001).

# Effects on health behaviour outcomes

# Diet

Two RCTs and one non-randomised trial assessed the impact of implementation strategies on employee dietary behaviours (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999; Parker 2010). We considered the evidence from both the non-randomised trial, Parker 2010, and the RCTs to be of very low certainty. The two randomised trials assessed dietary intake (fruit and vegetable consumption) using continuous measures, so we pooled their data in meta-analysis (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999). However, when outcomes for fruit and vegetable consumption were combined heterogeneity was high (Chi² < 0.01;



 $I^2 > 85\%$ ), suggesting that a single point estimate based on pooled analyses could be misleading, so we described the findings of each trial narratively.

Bandoni 2010 assessed the effect of implementation strategies on employee consumption of fruits and vegetables (grams per meal) in lunch meals purchased from workplace cafeterias. To assess fruit and vegetable consumption, researchers surveyed employees (intervention n=630; control n=584) on the portions of fruit and vegetables they had consumed in lunch meals (validity not reported). Researchers used serving spoons in the cafeteria as a portion size reference measure, and they considered the foods offered by the cafeteria that day. At follow-up (six months postbaseline), there was a small but significant increase in the grams of fruits and vegetables consumed in meals among employees at intervention workplaces, relative to control (adjusted effect estimate 11.75, 95% CI 2.73 to 20.77).

The Working Well trial examined the effects of implementation strategies on employee fruit and vegetable consumption (servings per day), in addition to the percentage of dietary energy derived from fat and dietary fibre consumption (grams per 1000 kcal) (Biener 1999). Employees self-reported dietary intake (intervention n=8914; control n=9291) using the Block food frequency questionnaire (validated tool). At follow-up (approximately 3 years postbaseline) the relative increase in daily servings of fruits and vegetables consumed by employees was significantly greater among intervention workplaces compared to controls (adjusted increase 5.60%, SE 1.30, P < 0.001), whilst the dietary energy derived from fat was significantly lower (adjusted difference -0.35%, SE 0.16, P < 0.05). There was no significant difference between groups, however, with regard to dietary fibre consumption (adjusted increase 1.70%, SE 0.87, P > 0.05).

Finally, in the Dow Chemical study, Parker 2010 assessed the impact of implementation strategies on a range of dietary behaviours among employees (moderate-intensity intervention n = 382; highintensity n = 1520; control n = 529). Researchers used survey items assessing dietary intake in a self-completed health risk assessment (validity not reported) to dichotomise employees as being at high or low risk of 'poor nutrition', defined as consuming four or more fast food meals per week, two or more sugar-sweetened beverages per day, or three or fewer fruit and vegetable servings per day. At follow-up (two years postbaseline measure), there was no significant difference in the proportion of employees identified as being at high risk of poor nutrition among workplaces that received moderate-intensity (estimate -7.70%, P = 0.068) or high-intensity (estimate -4.60%, P = 0.16) implementation support, relative to control. Investigators did not make statistical comparisons between groups receiving moderateand high-intensity implementation support.

# **Physical activity**

Parker 2010 provided evidence of very low certainty regarding the effects of strategies to implement physical activity policies or practices on the physical activity levels of employees (moderate-intensity intervention n = 382; high-intensity n = 1520; control n = 529). Researchers used survey items assessing physical activity in a self-completed health risk assessment (validity not reported) to dichotomise employees as being at high or low risk of 'poor physical activity', defined as not engaging in any moderate or strenuous physical activity at least once per week. At follow-up

(two years postbaseline), there was no significant difference in the proportion of employees classified as being at high risk of poor physical activity amongst workplaces that received moderate-(estimate -1.60%, P = 0.77) or high-intensity (estimate -0.70%, P = 0.89) implementation support, compared to control. Investigators did not make statistical comparisons between groups receiving moderate- and high-intensity implementation support. No other trials assessed the effects of implementation strategies on this outcome.

# Obesity

Parker 2010 was also the only trial to examine employee weight status, providing very low certainty evidence on the effects of implementation strategies on this outcome. The study assessed weight status in a sub-sample of employees participating in a health risk assessment as part of the trial (moderate-intensity intervention n = 213; high-intensity n = 926; control n = 382). Researchers assessed weight status objectively using anthropometric measures collected by health professionals following standardised protocols. At follow-up (two years postbaseline), there was no difference in the proportion of employees who were obese (MD 0.30%, P = 0.95) or overweight (MD 5.50%, P = 0.22) among workplaces that received highintensity implementation support compared to control. There were, however, significant reductions in employee weight (estimate -1.50 kg, P = 0.015) and body mass index (BMI) (estimate -0.20 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, P = 0.008). Similarly, there was no significant difference, relative to control, in the proportion of employees who were obese (estimate 0.10%, P = 0.88) or overweight (estimate 4.40%, P = 0.47) among workplaces that received moderateintensity implementation support; however, there were significant reductions in employee weight (estimate -2.10 kg, P = 0.033) and BMI (estimate  $-0.30 \text{ kg/m}^2$ , P = 0.034) were reported.

# Tobacco use

One RCT, the Working Well Trial, provided low certainty evidence for the effects of implementation strategies on employee tobacco use (Biener 1999). Investigators assessed tobacco use outcomes at the workplace level (42 workplaces in each group) and included smoking prevalence (percentage of smokers in total) and the percentage of smokers who quit (abstinence from tobacco for the previous six months). Employees self-reported tobacco use via a survey conducted at baseline and three years postbaseline (validity not reported). At follow-up, there was no significant difference in smoking prevalence (MD -0.66%, 95% CI -3.00 to 1.20) or the proportion of smokers who quit (MD 1.53, 95% CI -1.00 to 3.70) among employees in workplaces receiving implementation support compared to control.

# Alcohol use

One included trial reported the effects of a workplace health-promotion intervention on employee alcohol use (Parker 2010). However, as the implementation strategy and policies and practices targeted by the intervention did not include those addressing alcohol use, we did not include the effects on employee alcohol use reported in this trial in the review. None of the other included trials reported effects of implementation strategies on this outcome.



# Cost or cost-effectiveness of implementation strategies

Hannon 2012 was the only included trial to report cost-related measures for the implementation of workplace-based practices targeting diet, physical activity, weight control, tobacco use, and other health behaviours (low certainty evidence). Trialists used a self-reported survey completed by workplace human resources staff (validity not reported) to collect data on employers' costs for implementing three to five nominated best practices for health promotion, defined as annual US dollars spent (per worker) on contracts and hours of personnel time. The study collected cost data only for best practices that employers partially or fully implemented. To calculate total costs, researchers summed contract costs and monetised personnel hours and divided them by the mean number of employees in each study arm to obtain annual per worker costs. Relative to the 23 control workplaces, employer mean total costs (range) increased slightly more over time in the 23 intervention workplaces (intervention group baseline USD 8.30 (0.00 to 35.00), follow-up USD 10.10 (0.00 to 53.00) versus control (baseline USD 11.00 (0.00 to 53.00), follow-up USD 11.80 (1.00 to 43.00); significance not reported). None of the included trials examined the cost-effectiveness of workplace policies or practices targeting diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use or alcohol use.

# Unintended adverse consequences of implementation strategies

None of the included trials examined any unintended adverse consequences of the implementation strategies employed in the interventions.

## DISCUSSION

# **Summary of main results**

The aim of this review was to describe the effects of strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based policies and practices targeting key modifiable risk factors for chronic disease including diet, physical activity, obesity, tobacco use and alcohol use. The review found a small number of trials testing various combinations of multi-component support, with no two trials testing the same combination of strategies. Evidence regarding the impact of strategies on the implementation of workplace policies and practices targeting diet, physical activity, weight control and tobacco use were equivocal. We considered most trials to be at high risk of performance and detection bias and at unclear risk of selection, attrition and reporting bias. We considered the certainty of evidence (GRADE) for effects on implementation outcomes to be low based on four RCTs and very low based on two non-randomised trials.

Of the five trials comparing an implementation strategy versus no intervention (usual practice, wait-list or minimal support control) (Bandoni 2010; Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012; Parker 2010), meta-analysis was possible for three randomised trials reporting score-based measures of implementation (Beresford 2010; Biener 1999; Hannon 2012). Standardised effects for these outcomes showed no difference between groups, suggesting no benefit of implementation support in improving policy or practice implementation relative to control. Findings for other continuous or dichotomous implementation outcomes reported across these five trials were mixed. For two non-randomised trials examining comparative effectiveness of implementation strategies (Jones 2015; Parker 2010), both reported improvements

in implementation, favouring the more intensive implementation group. Three trials examined effects of implementation strategies on employee health behaviours, finding no significant effect on measures of tobacco use or physical activity, and few on measures of diet (Bandoni 2010; Biener 1999; Parker 2010). Only one trial reported cost data (Hannon 2012), and no included trial assessed adverse effects.

# Overall completeness and applicability of evidence

The limited number of included trials suggests implementation and knowledge translation research in the workplace setting is only in the early stages of development, similar to the case in other community-based settings including childcare centres and schools (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017). We identified several gaps in the evidence base. First, no trials examined the effectiveness of strategies to implement health-promoting workplace policies or practices addressing alcohol use. Second, there is an insufficient pool of studies to allow assessment of the effects of specific implementation strategies, their impact on specific population groups, and the effect of implementation strategies conducted at scale. Third, the review does not provide evidence on the potential cost-effectiveness of implementation strategies or their potential unintended adverse effects. Fourth, available research to date is concentrated in North America, with most trials taking place in the USA. Finally, included trials covered only a narrow range of employment sector types, with workplaces predominantly from the manufacturing and industrial sectors. As such, the applicability of the review findings to other countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries, and workplaces from other employment sectors (e.g. business and information technology), is limited.

# Quality of the evidence

We graded the certainty of evidence for effects on implementation outcomes as low based on four RCTs, and very low based on two non-randomised trials. We downgraded the certainty of evidence due to serious limitations regarding risk of bias and the precision of results. We deemed most trials to be at high risk of performance and detection bias and at unclear risk of selection, attrition and reporting bias. The sample sizes of workplaces included in trials were relatively small, limiting the precision of estimated effects. The limited number of trials identified by the review and heterogeneity across included trials in the implementation strategies and outcomes also limited comparisons. For secondary outcomes, we graded the certainty of evidence as low for measures of employee tobacco use and estimates of cost, and very low for measures of employee diet, physical activity and weight status.

# Potential biases in the review process

We employed a number of strategies to reduce the risk of bias in the review process. First, we conducted a comprehensive search to identify eligible studies, including screening approximately 13,000 records identified from multiple academic databases spanning a range of relevant professional disciplines, grey literature sources, handsearches of key journals, and contacts with relevant experts in the field and authors of included trials. Second, we employed previously published search filters to maximise the likelihood of capturing relevant trials. Third, we conducted all citation screening and data extraction in duplicate and sought adjudication from a third reviewer in instances where consensus regarding trial eligibility or data extraction could not reached. Finally, we pre-



specified methods in a published review protocol (Wolfenden 2016b).

Despite the rigorous review methods, a number of characteristics of the review may have introduced bias. While we screened a large number of citations, the first block of the search strategy to identify 'workplace' literature only used medical subject headings (MeSH) in MEDLINE and CENTRAL, which may have limited the sensitivity of the search. Terminology in implementation science is also evolving (Mazza 2013), and we noted a diverse range of descriptions of implementation strategies applied among included trials. As such, the search strategy may not have yielded all relevant trials due to the lack of standardised terms for implementation interventions. We will review the search terms in future updates of the review to identify opportunities to improve the sensitivity and specificity of the search

# Agreements and disagreements with other studies or reviews

This is the third in a series of Cochrane Reviews investigating the effectiveness of strategies to improve the implementation of policies and practices targeting modifiable risk factors for chronic disease within community settings. Aside from the specific setting where included trials were conducted, the three reviews employed the same selection criteria and review methods. The primary findings of this review are consistent with those of the two previous Cochrane Reviews on the impact of implementation strategies in school and childcare settings (Wolfenden 2016; Wolfenden 2017). Specifically, each review identified relatively few trials, considerable heterogeneity in the implementation strategies tested, little use of implementation-specific frameworks, and a limited number of trials assessing outcomes related to cost or unintended adverse effects. Furthermore, each review reported equivocal effects on implementation outcomes and on individual health behaviours. Such findings are consistent with a US Agency for HealthCare Research and Quality systematic review (Rabin 2010), which included uncontrolled before-and-after trials examining the impact of dissemination or implementation strategies targeting policies or programmes to address cancer risk behaviours (including smoking, diet and physical activity) across community settings. Similarly, the findings concur with those reported in reviews of implementation trials in primary care settings, which have found little evidence of cost assessment, costeffectiveness or adverse effects included in implementation studies (Lau 2015).

# **AUTHORS' CONCLUSIONS**

# Implications for practice

The findings of the review do not provide clear evidence to identify effective strategies to improve the implementation of policies and practices targeting modifiable risk factors for chronic disease in the workplace setting. On this basis, policy makers and practitioners must look to theory and empirical evidence from other settings when designing interventions for the workplace environment. The application of comprehensive theoretical implementation frameworks has the potential to improve the impact of implementation strategies. Such frameworks encourage the consideration of a range of multi-level factors (barriers and facilitators) when developing strategies to support implementation. While there are a large number of frameworks,

the most comprehensive is the Consolidated Framework for Implementation Research (CFIR), which draws together several published implementation theories into 39 constructs, reflecting the evidence base of factors most likely to influence the implementation of interventions (Damschroder 2009). Another frequently utilised implementation framework is the Theoretical Domains Framework (TDF), which synthesises 33 theories of behaviour change clustered into 14 (originally 12) domains and can be applied to identify impediments to implementation and appropriate implementation support strategies (Cane 2012). In many cases, as with the TDF, excellent guidance documents have been published, outlining methods to identify implementation barriers (or facilitators) and select appropriate implementation strategies and behaviour change techniques to overcome these (Atkins 2017).

In the absence of sufficient evidence for the workplace setting identified by this review, policy makers and practitioners should also utilise reviews on the effectiveness of implementation strategies in the healthcare services setting. The Cochrane EPOC review group house a number of such reviews. Specifically, Cochrane Reviews on research undertaken predominantly in healthcare settings suggest that a range of strategies may improve health service and staff implementation of evidencebased policies and practices, including audit and feedback (Ivers 2012), training (Forsetlund 2009), and academic detailing (O'Brien 2007). Consolidated reviews of systematic reviews also provide indirect evidence for the relative effects of individual and multicomponent implementation approaches (Lau 2015). With the help of theoretical frameworks and following comprehensive formative evaluations, the selection of evidence-based implementation strategies that address impediments to implementation and are appropriate to context are likely to represent the most effective approach for maximising the impact of implementation strategies in workplace settings.

# Implications for research

Despite much research over the past decade into the impact of interventions to influence employee health behaviours (Anderson 2009; Barr-Anderson 2011; Benedict 2008; Cahill 2014; Fichtenberg 2002; Fishwick 2013; Freak-Poli 2013; Geaney 2013; Kahn-Marshall 2012; Maes 2012; Malik 2014; Mhurchu 2010; Rongen 2013; Vuillemin 2011; Wong 2012), implementation research within the workplace setting is only just emerging. In the absence of a strong empirical underpinning, governments and private enterprise will continue to invest in health promotion initiatives in the absence of direct evidence to inform strategies to support their implementation, potentially undermining the anticipated beneficial effects on employees. There is both considerable scope and need to improve the evidence base.

To this end, the review identified few trials using objective or validated measures of implementation outcomes, with most employing self-reported, survey-based measures of implementation at a high risk of performance and detection bias. The use of score-based measures were common among the included trials; however, in all cases, the procedure used to calculate scores was unclear and may have included standardisation or transformation procedures. In doing so, the interpretation of effect sizes reported in trials was a considerable challenge, as it was not possible to determine what a unit change in the implementation measure represented. As robust measurement



is fundamental for internal validity, the development, validation and use of rigorous and objective measures is urgently needed to develop the field and address limitations in study quality.

Many of the included trials were not primarily designed to assess the impact of implementation strategies; rather, they represented process measures of trials intended to examine the impact of a workplace intervention on the health behaviours of employees. While it was possible to extract implementation strategies and outcomes from these trials, they were typically small and underpowered to detect meaningful changes in implementation effects. Large, rigorous trials with the primary objective of assessing implementation outcomes, which are designed and powered to detect meaningful improvements, are required to strengthen the evidence base. The application of 'hybrid effectiveness-implementation' research designs has been suggested as one means of improving the availability of research evidence to guide implementation efforts (Wolfenden 2016a). Hybrid designs take a dual focus from the start to assess the impact of interventions on individual health behaviours or clinical outcomes as well as the impact of strategies to enhance their implementation. Such designs enhance the ability to identify important intervention-implementation interactions, which inform decisions about optimal deployment and generalised impact, and may accelerate the translation of research findings into routine practice. One published framework including three types of hybrid effectiveness-implementation designs provides guidance for trialists in identifying and employing appropriate hybrid designs (Curran 2012).

Advances in the research area also require an understanding of how implementation strategies exert their effects (Lewis 2018). Workplace-based trials that employ factorial designs would assist in identifying the relative and additional effects of specific implementation strategies. The use and testing of the underlying theory or proposed mechanism by which implementation strategies are hypothesised to work would also help improve the effects of future implementation efforts, and has recently been undertaken in trials of implementation interventions in schools and childcare services (Lee 2018). Such research requires authors of trials to specify how an implementation strategy will facilitate the implementation of workplace policies or practices promoting health. However, among studies reporting the use of a theoretical framework in this review, none specified the hypothesised determinants of effect targeted by the implementation strategies. The inclusion of clear conceptual or theoretical mechanistic models on which trials are based, and measures to assess implementation mechanisms in future randomised trials, would facilitate mechanistic evaluations (e.g. mediation analyses) to achieve this in the workplace setting. Furthermore, the availability and usability of future implementation research could be improved by the application of the EPOC taxonomy and recently released Standards for Reporting Implementation Studies (StaRI) Statement (EPOC 2015; Pinnock 2017).

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National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). Obesity: the prevention, identification, assessment and management of overweight and obesity in adults and children. NICE Clinical Guidelines, No. 43.

#### **NICE 2007**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). Smoking: workplace interventions. NICE Public Health Guideline (PH5).

# **NICE 2008**

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## **NICE 2008b**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). Physical activity in the workplace. NICE Public Health Guideline (PH13).

## **NICE 2009**

National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE). Workplace health: long-term sickness absence and incapacity to work. NICE Public Health Guideline [PH19].

## **NICE 2009b**

National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (NICE). Mental wellbeing at work. NICE Public health guideline (PH22).

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Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). OECD employment: hours worked. data.oecd.org/emp/hours-worked.htm (accessed prior to 20 August 2016).

#### **OECD 2017**

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Health at a glance 2017: OECD indicators. Paris (France): OECD Publishing; 2017. Available from dx.doi.org/10.1787/health\_glance-2017-en.

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Pelletier KR. A review and analysis of the clinical and costeffectiveness studies of comprehensive health promotion and disease management programs at the worksite update VIII 2008 to 2010. *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 2011;**53**(11):1310-31.

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Perry CL, Bishop DB, Taylor GL, Davis M, Story M, Gray C, et al. A randomized school trial of environmental strategies to encourage fruit and vegetable consumption among children. *Health Education & Behavior* 2004;**34**(1):65-76.

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Rabin BA, Brownson RC, Haire-Joshu D, Kreuter MW, Weaver NL. A glossary for dissemination and implementation research in health. *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice* 2008;**14**(2):117-23.

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Rabin BA, Glasgow RE, Kerner JF, Klump MP, Brownson RC. Dissemination and implementation research on community-based cancer prevention: a systematic review. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2010;**38**(4):443-56.

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Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration. Review Manager (RevMan). Version 5.3. Copenhagen: Nordic Cochrane Centre, The Cochrane Collaboration, 2014.

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Saunders RP, Ward D, Felton GM, Dowda M, Pate RR. Examining the link between program implementation and behavior outcomes in the lifestyle education for activity program (LEAP). *Evaluation and Program Planning* 2006;**29**(4):352-64.

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Schillinger D. An introduction to effectiveness, dissemination and implementation research. In: Fleisher P, Goldstein E editor(s). UCSF Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) resource manuals and guides to community-engaged research. San Francisco: Clinical Translational Science Institute Community Engagement Program, University of California, 2010.

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Scollo MM, Winstanley MH. Tobacco in Australia: facts and issues. www.tobaccoinaustralia.org.au. Melbourne: Cancer Council Victoria, (accessed prior to 20 August 2016).

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Sorensen G, Landsbergis P, Hammer L, Amick III B, Linnan L, Yancey A. Preventing chronic disease at the workplace: a workshop. *American Journal of Public Health* 2011;**101**(Suppl 1):S196–207.

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Story M, Mays RW, Bishop DB, Perry CL, Taylor G, Smyth M, et al. 5-a-day Power Plus: process evaluation of a multicomponent elementary school program to increase fruit and vegetable consumption. *Health Education & Behavior* 2000;**27**(2):187-200.

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Sutherland RL, Wolfenden L, Lubans DR, Cohen K, Davies LJ, Desmet C. A randomized trial of an intervention to facilitate the implementation of school-based practices known to increase students' moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2017;**53**(6):818-28.

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Thomas RE, McLellan J, Perera R. School-based programmes for preventing smoking. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2013, Issue 4. [DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD001293.pub3]

## To 2013

To QG, Chen TTL, Magnussen CG, To KG. Workplace physical activity interventions: a systematic review. *American Journal of Health Promotion* 2013;**27**(6):113-23.

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Vuillemin A, Rostami C, Maes L, Van Cauwenberghe E, Van Lenthe FJ, Brug J, et al. Worksite physical activity interventions and obesity: a review of European studies (the HOPE Project). *Obesity Facts* 2011;**4**(6):479-88.



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Ward DS, Benjamin SE, Ammerman AS, Ball SC, Neelon BH, Bangdiwala SI. Nutrition and physical activity in child care. Results from an environmental intervention. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine* 2008;**35**(4):352-6.

#### Waters 2011

Waters E, de Silva-Sanigorski A, Hall BJ, Brown T, Campbell KJ, Gao Y, et al. Interventions for preventing obesity in children. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2011, Issue 12. [DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD001871.pub3]

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World Health Organization (WHO). Global Strategy for Health for All By 2000. Geneva: WHO Press, 1981.

#### **WHO 2014**

World Health Organization (WHO). Global Status Report on Noncommunicable Diseases 2014. Geneva: WHO Press, 2014.

#### **WHO 2016**

World Health Organisation (WHO). Global Health Observatory data repository: prevalence of obesity among adults, BMI ≥ 30, age-standardized. www.who.int/gho/data/view.main.REGION2480A?lang=en (accessed 19 March 2018).

#### Wolfenden 2016

Wolfenden L, Jones J, Williams CM, Finch M, Wyse RJ, Kingsland M, et al. Strategies to improve the implementation of healthy eating, physical activity and obesity prevention policies, practices or programmes within childcare services. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016, Issue 10. [DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD011779.pub2]

## CHARACTERISTICS OF STUDIES

**Characteristics of included studies** [ordered by study ID]

#### Wolfenden 2016a

Wolfenden L, Williams CM, Wiggers J, Nathan N, Yoong SL. Improving the translation of health promotion interventions using effectiveness-implementation hybrid designs in program evaluations. *Health Promotion Journal of Australia* 2016;**27**(3):204-7.

#### Wolfenden 2017

Wolfenden L, Nathan NK, Sutherland R, Yoong SL, Hodder RK, Wyse RJ, et al. Strategies for enhancing the implementation of school-based policies or practices targeting risk factors for chronic disease. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2017, Issue 11. [DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD011677.pub2]

#### Wong 2012

Wong JYL, Gilson ND, van Uffelen JGZ, Brown WJ. The effects of workplace physical activity interventions in men: a systematic review. *American Journal of Men's Health* 2012;**6**(4):303-13.

# References to other published versions of this review Wolfenden 2016b

Wolfenden L, Regan T, Williams C, Wiggers J, Kingsland M, Milat A, Rissel C, Bauman A, Booth D, Farrell MM, Légaré F, Zomahoun H, Parmenter B, Ben Charif A, Yoong S. Strategies to improve the implementation of workplace-based policies or practices targeting tobacco, alcohol, diet, physical activity and obesity [Protocol]. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2016, Issue 12. [DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD012439]

\* Indicates the major publication for the study

## Bandoni 2010

Methods

Study design: randomised controlled trial

Intervention duration: 6 months

Length of follow-up from baseline: 6 months

**Differences in baseline characteristics**: some differences apparent in employee level of education (12 years or more of education: intervention 46% vs control 33%), however P values not reported. Employee dietary behaviours differed significantly only for distribution of total fruit and percentage of energy from fat (P < 0.05).

Unit of allocation: workplaces

**Unit of analysis:** implementation outcomes were analysed by workplace and health behaviour outcomes were analysed by employee

**Participants** 

Workplace type: workplaces predominantly from the industrial sector

Region: Sao Paulo, Brazil

**Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics**: fewer than half of employees had completed 12 or more years of schooling (intervention 46%; control 33%). Most employees were male (67%).



#### Bandoni 2010 (Continued)

#### Inclusion/exclusion criteria:

Workplaces:

Inclusion:

- Enrolled in the 'Workers Food Program', a Brazilian policy initiative encouraging companies to offer subsidised meals to their employees
- · Located in Sao Paulo
- Prepared and distributed at least 150 meals per day to employees

Employees: not reported

Number of workplaces allocated: 30

## Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces:

n (controls baseline) = 15

n (controls follow-up) = 14

n (interventions baseline) = 15

n (interventions follow-up) = 15

Employees:

n (controls baseline) = 645

n (controls follow-up) = 584

n (interventions baseline) = 651

n (interventions follow-up) = 630

## Recruitment:

Workplaces: not reported.

*Employees*: all employees at workplaces partaking in the trial were invited by researchers to participate in the study. Those employees who agreed voluntarily and signed a consent form were recruited to the study.

## Recruitment rate:

Workplaces: 42%

Employees: 11.7%

## Interventions

Number of experimental conditions: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)

## Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

The availability of fruits and vegetables in lunchtime meals served by workplace cafeterias

## Implementation strategies:

## **EPOC:** educational materials

Cafeteria managers received an educational manual developed by research staff providing information on the Workers Food Program and its nutritional guidelines, as well as the importance of a balanced diet for the health and performance of employees, highlighting the key role of fruits and vegetables. The contents of the manual were presented by research staff and discussed with the cafeteria managers.



#### Bandoni 2010 (Continued)

#### **EPOC: educational meetings**

Research staff delivered culinary workshops to food service staff including cafeterias workers, cooks and kitchen assistants. The workshops included recipe suggestions for incorporating fruits and vegetables into meals and guidance on the presentation and arrangement of culinary preparations.

Theoretical underpinning: Ecological Model for Health Promotion

**Description of control**: wait-list control. Workplaces in the control group continued practice as normal during the study period. Following completion of the study, control workplaces received copies of the educational materials and strategies used in the intervention.

#### Outcomes

#### Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

Grams of fruits and vegetables in lunch meals served by workplace cafeterias

**Data collection method**: a company food service survey was conducted at 2 time points: baseline and 6 months postbaseline. Food service managers recorded 3 successive days of meals offered to employees. Based on the food service managers' reports, all foods that were prepared for serving were listed and their respective quantities of fruits and vegetables per customer per day were recorded as standard portions. The quantities per customer were established by the mean of consumption in each cafeteria.

Validity of measure: not reported

#### Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:

Employee's consumption of fruits and vegetables (grams per meal) in lunch meals purchased from workplace cafeterias

**Data collection method**: an employee survey was conducted at 2 time points: baseline and 6 months postbaseline. Research staff surveyed employees on the portion of fruits and vegetables consumed at lunch meals, using as a reference the utensils used in the distribution of meals in the cafeteria. Foods offered by the workplace cafeteria that day were used to collect data. Employee reported portions were recorded and converted into grams to determine the consumption of fruits and vegetables in lunch meals.

Validity of measure: not reported

Outcome relating to cost: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

#### Notes

**Research funding**: study was supported by the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development

**Conflicts of interest**: study authors reported no conflicts of interests

Additional information requested from trial authors: information was requested to confirm the number of workplaces in experimental groups at baseline. No response was received. Given the trial reported equal random assignment to experimental groups, and that one workplace dropped out of the trial following allocation leaving 14 control and 15 intervention workplaces, it was assumed the workplace lost at follow-up was from the control group. As such, numbers at baseline were reported in the review as n = 15 for each experimental group.

# Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on method of generating random sequence



Bandoni 2010 (Continued)		
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on whether allocation was concealed prior to assignment
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Managers from participating workplaces were involved in delivering the intervention (Bandoni 2010, p 976)
Blinding of outcome as- sessment (detection bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Food service manager self-report in interview with researchers during visit, neither blind (Bandoni 2010, p 977)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Unclear risk	One company dropped out. Final sample intervention: 15; control: 14. Analysis did not include imputation of missing data, therefore unclear whether this biased results (Bandoni 2010, p 976)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear risk	No mention of a priori registration of measures or publication of protocol
Other bias	Low risk	

#### Beresford 2010

Beresford 2010			
Methods	Trial name: the Physical Activity and Changes in Eating (PACE) project		
	Study design: randomised controlled trial		
	Intervention duration: the total intervention period was 15 to 18 months		
	Length of follow-up from baseline: 2 years		
	<b>Differences in baseline characteristics</b> : there were no significant differences in workplace characteristics or Environmental Assessment (EA) checklist scores between intervention and control groups at baseline.		
	Unit of allocation: workplaces		
	Unit of analysis: workplaces		
Participants	<b>Workplace type</b> : small to medium workplaces in the manufacturing, transportation and utilities, and personal and household services industries		
	Region: Seattle metropolitan area, Washington, USA		
	<b>Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics</b> : most employees (80%) were white, and 63% had attained a tertiary level of education. The proportion of male and female employees was approximately equal.		
	Inclusion/exclusion criteria:		
	Workplaces:		
	Inclusion:		
	<ul> <li>Large proportion of sedentary employees (&gt; 25%)</li> <li>Low employee turnover rate during the past 2 years (&lt; 30%)</li> </ul>		



#### Beresford 2010 (Continued)

- Low proportion of non-English speaking employees (< 30%)
- Workforce between 40 and 350 employees
- Operations at no more than 2 physical locations
- At least a 3 year history of being in business
- Willingness to be randomised to either the intervention or comparison arm of the trial

Exclusion: workplaces with a wellness programme that had an on site physical activity or nutrition component

Employees: not reported

Number of workplaces allocated: 34

## Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces:

n (controls baseline) = 17

n (controls follow-up) = 17

n (interventions baseline) = 17

n (interventions follow-up) = 17

Employees: not reported

#### Recruitment:

Workplaces: the trial recruited workplaces in the Seattle metropolitan area restricted by size and guided by standardised industrial classification (SIC) codes. Research staff mailed, called and then visited eligible companies, giving priority to eligible companies within one hour of travel from the study centre

Employees: not reported

#### Recruitment rate:

Workplaces: 42%

Employees: not reported

#### Interventions

#### **Number of experimental conditions**: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)

## Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

Workplace physical activity, nutrition and weight control practices at three levels including:

Organisational level:

- Workplace leadership commitment to health promotion
- Convening of regular employee advisory board (EAB) meetings
- EAB engagement with senior management to sponsor ongoing opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity promotion in workplaces

## Environmental level:

- Social support systems to encourage health promoting norms (e.g. employee health challenges)
- Health awareness building and maintenance including constant inescapable messages in the workplace (e.g. posters, flyers)
- Provision of healthy snack options in vending machines or alternative places
- Establishment of walking loops on workplace sites and participation in physical activity initiatives

Individual level:



#### Beresford 2010 (Continued)

- Exposure to regular cues for behaviour change (e.g. flyers promoting the use of stairs posted next to elevators)
- Self-assessment, feedback and skill building. Employees received a PACE self-help manual providing self-assessment materials to evaluate current levels of physical activity and to set goals to increase activity, and educational materials on balancing energy intake with energy expenditure

#### Implementation strategies:

#### **EPOC: tailored intervention**

2 focus groups were conducted with 11 employee volunteers prior to intervention implementation to further refine the intervention framework and strategies. The first focus group was used to identify key barriers and facilitators perceived by employees to improving dietary intake and physical activity, and to gather suggestions regarding appropriate workplace intervention activities. In the second focus group, employees were asked to brainstorm ideas on the best way to present messages developed in the first focus group, and to provide feedback on intervention promotional materials (e.g. posters and information resources) and proposed intervention activities.

#### EPOC: local opinion leaders and local consensus process

Workplaces were assisted to establish EABs. EABs included 4-7 employees who volunteered or were nominated by the workplace primary contact person for the intervention. The EAB included employees from all occupational sectors in the workplace and worked closely with the project interventionist from the research team to design, plan and implement intervention activities best suited to the workplace. The EAB additionally worked with the senior management to obtain commitment to sponsor ongoing opportunities for healthy eating and physical activity promotion in the workplace.

#### **EPOC: educational materials**

EAB members were provided with a handbook that described the study, explained their role as an EAB member, and provided the intervention framework necessary to carry out the intervention in their workplace. The intervention framework specified the minimum requirements for intervention implementation; however, EABs were encouraged to do more. A number of intervention activities and messages that the EAB could tailor for their workplace were also provided in the handbook.

Theoretical underpinning: Modified Ecological Framework

**Description of control**: wait-list control. Workplace practices continued as normal during the study period. After follow-up data collection, control workplaces received the intervention materials, assistance with establishing an EAB, and the EAB handbook for members of the board.

#### Outcomes

## Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

Implementation of 11 workplace environmental practices to promote increased physical activity, healthy eating and weight control including:

The physical environment:

- · Availability of bike racks
- Avilability of other provisions for bikes
- Workplace grounds: availability of walking paths and outdoor recreation areas
- Interior facilities: availability of fitness rooms, changing facilities and showers
- Stairwell improvements (per stairwell)
- Vending machines: availability of healthy snack options (rate per 100 slots)
- Vending machines: availability of diet sodas (rate per 100 slots)

The information environment:

- Stair signage (per stairwell)
- Number of notices/posters encouraging physical activity (per 100 employees)
- Number of notices/posters encouraging a healthy diet (per 100 employees)



#### Beresford 2010 (Continued)

Worksite resources: existence and/or sponsorship of workplace weight control or physical activity programmes

**Data collection method**: environmental observation. An EA checklist was delivered at 2 time points: baseline and 2 years postbaseline. The EA checklist was adapted from the Checklist of Health Promotion Environments at Worksites (CHEW) tool. The checklist included the following sections: parking, bicycle and grounds assessment; neighbourhood assessment; building assessment (exterior, interior, and stairwells); signage assessment (physical activity and nutrition); vending machine assessment; and weight control or physical activity programmes. Checklists were completed by a research staff member (EA rater) at the workplace site. Checklist items measuring implementation of each practice were combined into an EA score using an average or a sum standardised for the size of the company when appropriate.

**Validity of measure**: not reported, however observation represents an objective assessment of the work environment

Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use: not reported

Outcome relating to cost: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

Notes

**Research funding**: study was funded by a grant from National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute: R01 HI 79491

Conflicts of interest: not specified by study authors

Additional information requested from trial authors: information was requested regarding the number of workplaces and employees in experimental groups and whether follow-up data were available for relevant employee health behaviour outcomes reported in a companion baseline paper (Beresford 2007). Information was provided for the number of workplaces in experimental groups, but not the number of employees, and this information was reported accordingly in the review. Additionally, it was confirmed follow-up results for employee health behaviours were not yet published, therefore these outcomes could not be included in the review.

# Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on method of generating random sequence
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on whether allocation was concealed prior to assignment
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff (Beresford 2010, pp 3-5)
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) Policy or practice implementation	Unclear risk	Observation of physical environment with objective measures; however, no mention of whether raters were blind
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Unclear risk	34 workplaces randomised, 1 withdrew following baseline data collection. No information provided regarding the inclusion of this workplace in the analysis or which treatment group this workplace was from (Beresford 2010, p 3)



Beresford 2010 (Continued)				
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	High risk	Beresford 2007 indicates that physical activity and diet outcome measures will be assessed		
Other bias	Low risk			

#### Biener 1999

Methods

Trial name: the Working Well Trial

Study design: randomised controlled trial

Intervention duration: 2 years

**Length of follow-up from baseline**: 3 years. Baseline data collected from September to December 1990 and follow-up data collected from September to December 1993

**Differences in baseline characteristics**: there were no significant demographic differences at baseline between intervention and control workplaces.

Unit of allocation: workplace
Unit of analysis: workplace

**Participants** 

**Workplace type**: workplaces were from the manufacturing, communications, public service and utilities sectors. Workplace size ranged from 49 to 1700 employees

**Region**: 16 states across the USA. The intervention was coordinated and delivered through 4 study centres including:

- Brown University School of Medicine/Miriam Hospital, Rhode Island (BROWN)
- Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/University of Massachusetts (DFCI)
- · University of Florida (UF)
- MD Anderson Cancer Centre, Texas (MDACC)

**Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics**: employees were predominantly middle-aged (mean 41 years, SD 11), white (92%), male (67%), and employed in blue collar jobs (service work, manual labour, machine operation and skilled work). Half (49%) of employees had completed at least some college education.

# Inclusion/exclusion criteria:

Workplaces:

Inclusion criteria was specific to study centre:

## DFCI:

- Number of employees between 250 and 2500
- Employee turnover < 20%
- Proportion of non-English speaking employees < 20%
- Known or suspected occupational carcinogen (as per the Standard Industrial Classification Code) in use at the workplace

## BROWN:

- Number of employees between 250 and 1000
- Employee turnover < 20%
- Proportion of non-English speaking employees < 20%
- Employee smoking present at workplace



MDACC: number of employees > 75 (working full time)

Employees:

Inclusion (all study centres): classified as a permanent employee, working at least 50% of work time

Number of workplaces allocated: 114

## Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces

n (controls baseline) = 57

n (controls follow-up) = 56

n (interventions baseline) = 57

n (interventions follow-up) = 55

Employees:

n (controls baseline) = 10,730

n (controls follow-up) = 9291

n (interventions baseline) = 10,071

n (interventions follow-up) = 8914

#### Recruitment:

Workplaces:

Recruitment methods were specific to study centre:

UF: a single company corporate headquarters was approached and provided UF with a list of company workplaces in a defined geographical area. All of these workplaces were contacted to participate in the study.

DFCI and BROWN: a Dunn and Bradstreet database was used to identify eligible workplaces within a defined geographical region

MDACC:

Workplaces were recruited either through the National Rural Electric Co-op Association or through natural gas pipeline corporations

Employees:

Recruitment methods for participation in the employee survey were specific to study centre. UF and BROWN mailed questionnaires to all employees at workplaces and had them return completed surveys via postal mail or to a mailbox at the workplace. DFCI mailed questionnaires to a random sample of employees at baseline and another random sample at follow-up. MDACC disseminated questionnaires to all employees at workplaces during required safety meetings.

## Recruitment rate:

Workplaces:

UF: 100%

**DFCI: 15%** 

BROWN: 16%

MDACC: 70%



#### Employees:

The trial used two cross-sectional surveys of employees. The overall response rate at baseline was 69% and at follow-up 71%

#### Interventions

## **Number of experimental conditions**: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)

#### Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

Policies and practices in the workplace physical and social environment for diet and tobacco use including:

#### Diet:

## Physical environment:

- · Access to healthy foods
- Access to nutritional information
- · Reduced fat in food services
- · Increased fibre in food services
- Nutritional labelling in cafeteria
- Reduced fat food options in vending machines
- Increased fibre food options in vending machines
- Nutritional labelling on vending machines

#### Social environment:

- · Management concern about employees' diets
- · Co-worker support for low fat diets

#### Tobacco use:

#### Physical environment:

- · Restrictiveness of smoking policy
- Freedom from environmental tobacco smoke at work
- · Compliance with smoking policy
- Restrictiveness of smoking policy

## Social environment:

- Disapproval of smoking at work
- · Management concern about smoking
- Encouragement from co-workers and employers to stop smoking

#### Implementation strategies:

## EPOC:local opinion leaders and local consensus process

An EAB was established at each workplace with representation from all occupation levels including management, union members (if any) and workers. The EAB worked in partnership with a professional interventionist from the study centre to plan and deliver environmental level activities and to assist in the tailoring of the intervention to workplaces. For example, members of the EAB met regularly with management to assist in the development of smoke free policies. If management agreed to a new policy, the EAB developed and followed a plan for implementing the new policy.

#### **EPOC:educational meetings**

Training sessions were conducted for EAB members to familiarise them with the goals of the project, their role and responsibilities, and to provide education regarding smoking and nutrition.

#### **EPOC**:educational outreach visits



Intervention specialists visited workplaces at least once per month to provide support for the intervention

**Theoretical underpinning**: health promotion activities were informed by the Ecological Model for Health Promotion. Implementation strategies (EABs) followed Rothman's Community Activation Principles

**Description of control**: in all study centres, control workplaces received summary results from the employee baseline survey. Additionally, three of the four study centres provided an optional minimal support control, which was limited to the distribution of printed health promotion materials to workplaces such as newsletters.

#### Outcomes

## Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

#### Diet:

- · Proportion of workplaces reporting improvement in cafeteria point of purchase nutrition labelling
- · Proportion of workplaces reporting adoption of healthy catering policy
- Proportion of workplaces reporting improvement in vending machine nutrition labelling

#### Tobacco use:

- · Change in mean score for the restrictiveness of workplace smoking policy
- · Change in mean score for compliance with workplace smoking policy

#### Data collection method:

#### Diet:

A survey was conducted with organisational informants including personnel directors, food service managers and vending machine contractors. Surveys were administered via phone or in person to informants using a standard protocol.

#### Tobacco use:

A survey was conducted with employees at 2 time points: baseline and 3 years postbaseline. Survey items assessed employees self-reported perceived compliance with and restrictiveness of tobacco control policies. Score scale: policy restrictiveness (1 = low restrictiveness; 4 = high restrictiveness); policy compliance (1 = low compliance; 5 = high compliance)

**Validity of method**: validity of surveys used to assess implementation outcomes for diet and tobacco use not reported

## Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:

#### Diet:

- · Percentage of dietary energy from fat
- Dietary fibre consumption (grams per 1000 kcal)
- Consumption of fruits and vegetables (servings per day)

## Tobacco use:

- 6-month abstinence rate (percentage of quitters in total). Defined as self-reported abstinence for the 6 months prior to the survey.
- Smoking prevalence (percentage of smokers in total). Defined as individuals who had smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their lives and currently smoked at least 1 cigarette per day, or who defined themselves as current smokers

## Data collection method:

Diet:



During an individual employee survey, employees self-completed an 88 item semi-quantitative food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) at baseline and 3 years postbaseline

#### Tobacco use:

During an individual employee survey, employees self-reported tobacco use behaviours at baseline and 3 years postbaseline

#### Validity of measure:

#### Diet:

The FFQ was based on the Block FFQ, which has been validated in previous studies. The FFQ was pretested prior to use in the trial, and minor modifications were made to reflect regional dietary differences.

#### Tobacco use:

Validity unclear. Trial authors reported use of self-reported quit rates is a standard and valid measure of smoking cessation outcomes in large scale community based trials, however, it is unclear if the specific items used in the employee survey to assess smoking behaviours were validated.

Outcome relating to cost: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

#### Notes

#### Notes:

A number of implementation outcome measures for diet and tobacco use were reported for this trial, however, several measures provided an indirect assessment of implementation that did not meet the review criteria for primary outcomes. Subsequently, only selected implementation outcome measures were included in the review, which did not include all practices targeted by the intervention.

Workplace trial numbers differed across the diet and tobacco use components of the intervention as one of the 4study centres (UF) did not participate in the tobacco use component. Additionally, workplace sample size numbers differed for each of the three nutrition implementation outcome measures included in the review as variable numbers of organisational informants reported data for each measure.

**Research funding**: study was supported by a cooperative agreement from the National Cancer Institute, Grants U01 CA51687, U01 CA61771, U01 CA51686, U01 CA516888, and P01 CA50087.

Conflicts of interest: not specified by study authors

Additional information requested from trial authors: information was requested regarding the number of employees in experimental groups, as this was not reported in the companion paper from which data for health behaviour outcomes for this trial were extracted (outcomes were assessed and reported at the workplace level). Given the time elapsed since the trial, the author of this companion paper indicated it was not possible to provide this information. As such, the number of employees in experimental groups was reported in the review as per the numbers reported in the primary outcomes paper (Biener 1999).

## Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on method of generating random sequence
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Unclear risk	No information on whether allocation was concealed prior to assignment



Biener 1999 (Continued)		
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation at all organisational levels
Blinding of outcome as- sessment (detection bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Key informant interviews were self-reported organisational outcomes
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Unclear risk	114 workplaces initially recruited, 3 workplaces (2 intervention, 1 control) dropped out due to economic dislocations, leaving 111 in the final sample. For pair-wise analyses, 3 pairs were excluded, leaving a total of 108 work sites (Sorensen 1996, p 940).
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low risk	All pre-specified outcomes (Abrams 1994, Fig 1) reported in Sorensen 1996 and Biener 1999
Other bias	Low risk	

#### Hannon 2012

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Study design: randomised controlled trial

Intervention duration: 12 months

**Length of follow-up from baseline**: 15 months. Baseline data were collected June 2007 to June 2008, follow-up data were collected October 2008 to December 2009

**Differences in baseline characteristics**: the only significant difference between intervention and control workplaces was employee gender; intervention workplaces had a larger proportion of male employees (52%) and control workplaces had a larger proportion of female employees (61%) (P = 0.03).

Unit of allocation: workplace

**Unit of analysis:** implementation and cost outcomes were analysed by workplace

## **Participants**

**Workplace type**: low-wage, mid-sized workplaces (100-999 employees) from predominantly education and health services; manufacturing; other services; and wholesale and retail trade sectors

Region: King County, Washington USA

**Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics**: workplaces included in the trial were identified as low-wage, with the average annual salary reported for employees (USD 38,849) below the 2007 average annual salary for the King County area (USD 48,560). 39% of employees were from racial/ethnic minority groups, and the proportion of male and female employees was approximately equal.

## Inclusion/exclusion criteria:

Workplaces:

# Inclusion:

- Workplace size 100-999 employees
- Company/workplace headquarters located in King County
- Work industry/sector (identified by the NAICS code) with 2005 median wage below the King County 2005 median wage
- Company stable (in business for at least 3 years)



#### Exclusion:

- Located > 30 miles from the research site
- · Participated in prior research with the University of Washington
- · Prior relationship with the American Cancer Society

Employees: not reported

Number of workplaces allocated: 48

## Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces:

n (controls baseline) = 24

n (controls follow-up) = 23

n (interventions baseline) = 24

n (interventions follow-up) = 23

Employees: not reported

## Recruitment:

Workplaces: researchers obtained a list of workplaces in King County, Washington from a service providing databases for businesses. From this list, researchers identified workplaces that met the eligibility criteria and sent a letter and brochure describing the study. Researchers then telephoned these employers 1-2 weeks later to conduct a screening survey for eligibility, and scheduled recruitment meetings with employers who met eligibility criteria and were willing to learn more about the study. At the recruitment meeting, the researchers explained study procedures and enrolment requirements, and employers willing to enrol signed a memorandum of understanding.

Employees: not reported

## Recruitment rate:

Workplaces: 22%

Employees: not reported

#### Interventions

## Number of experimental conditions: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)

## Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

The Workplace Solutions intervention targeted workplace implementation of 16 best-practice strategies (in 5 categories) taken from the US Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) *Guide to Community Preventive Services*, which provides evidence-based strategies for chronic disease prevention. Workplace best practices included:

- Benefits:
  - o Full coverage for tobacco-cessation treatment
  - o Full coverage for breast, cervical, and colon cancer screening
  - o Full coverage for influenza vaccination
  - o Require health plans to send reminders for preventive care to members and network providers
  - Require health plans to track delivery and send performance feedback to network providers
- Policies:
  - Ban tobacco use at work sites
  - Post 'Use the stairs' signs
  - Provide facilities for physical activity
  - o Make healthy food choices available and affordable
  - o Require and provide sun protection for outdoor workers



- Programmes:
  - Sponsor a tobacco guit line, including nicotine replacement therapy
  - o Provide influenza vaccinations onsite
  - o Offer a workplace physical activity programme
  - o Support a weight control programme
- Tracking:
  - o Survey workers to track effectiveness of health promotion efforts
- Communication:
  - o Conduct targeted health promotion campaigns

## Implementation strategies:

## EPOC: audit and feedback and clinical practice guidelines

The project interventionist used baseline data on workplace implementation of the best-practice strategies to develop a tailored 10-page report with recommendations for improving any of the 16 best-practice strategies that the employer was not implementing fully. The interventionist met with employers to present the findings of the report and the recommendations.

## **EPOC: local consensus process**

Following feedback and recommendations, the interventionist met with employers to discuss the potential for adopting each recommended best-practice strategy and asked employers to choose 3-5 strategies to implement over the next 12 months.

#### EPOC: educational outreach and educational materials

To support implementation of each best-practice strategy nominated for implementation by employers, the interventionist delivered to workplaces implementation oriented toolkits 'solution sets', containing information on the benefits of adopting the practice, how to implement the practice, and supporting materials for implementation.

The interventionist encouraged employers to contact her with questions and requests for implementation assistance as needed, and contacted each employer in the intervention group monthly by email or telephone to offer assistance.

## **EPOC: tailored intervention**

A final meeting with employers occurred 6 months after the solution sets meeting. The interventionist asked employers about their progress in implementing each of their chosen best-practice strategies and offered guidance for overcoming identified implementation barriers.

Theoretical underpinning: Rogers's Diffusion of Innovations Theory

**Description of control**: wait-list control. During the intervention, workplaces in the control group received two newsletters providing an update on trial progress. Following collection of follow-up data, workplaces in the control group received the Workplace Solutions intervention.

# Outcomes

# Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

Workplace implementation of 16 best-practice strategies for chronic disease prevention recommended by the CPSTF *Guide to Community Preventive Services* 

**Data collection method**: workplace staff (human resources leaders) completed surveys at 2 time points: baseline and 15 months postbaseline. Survey items were adapted from a review of studies on instruments to measure organisation support for employee health. Survey items for benefit coverage, tobacco use policy, onsite influenza immunisation, and tobacco quit lines had 3 possible scores: 0 if the practice was not in place, 0.75 if the practice was partially in place, and 1 if the practice was fully in place. Other items received dichotomous scores: 0 for practices that were not in place, and 1 for practices that were in place. Scores indicating implementation for each individual best practice were calculated as the mean of the scores for the survey items measuring the practice. Total best-practice scores were calculated as the mean of combined scores for the 16 best practices, on a 100-point scale.



Validity of measure: not reported

Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use: not reported

#### Outcome relating to cost:

Workplace costs (per worker) for workplace health promotion, indicated by contract costs and personnel hours spent

**Data collection method**: question items for cost outcomes were included in the survey used to collect data on primary outcomes, completed by workplace staff. Data on mean contract costs and personal hours spent were collected at 2 time points: baseline and 15 months postbaseline, and researchers monetised personnel hours by multiplying them by the mean worker hourly wage reported across work sites. Contract costs and monetised personnel hours were summed to calculate total costs. Costs reported for the 6 benefit-related practices were not included because employers had difficulty separating preventive care costs from the costs of treatment. Costs related to making healthy food available were also excluded because employers providing food on site had difficulty separating costs for healthy food from their overall food related costs.

Validity of measure: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

Notes

**Research funding**: trial was supported by the CDC Office of Public Health Research (Grant 5-P01-CD000249-03) and by the University of Washington Health Promotion Research Centre (Health Promotion Research Centre cooperative agreement number U48/DP000050-03)

Conflicts of interest: study authors reported no conflicts of interest

**Additional information requested from trial authors**: information was requested and provided regarding the specific duration of the Workplace Solutions intervention and was reported accordingly in the review.

#### Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low risk	Block randomisation undertaken by statistician (assume computerised) (Hannon 2012, p 127)
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low risk	Block randomisation undertaken by statistician (assume computerised) (Hannon 2012, p 127)
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation
Blinding of outcome as- sessment (detection bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	All self-reported outcomes (Hannon 2012, p 127)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Low risk	24 workplaces per group at baseline; 23 per group analysed at follow-up (Hannon 2012, p 128)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear risk	No mention of a priori registration of measures or publication of protocol



Other bias Low risk

#### **Jones 2015**

Methods **Study design**: non-randomised trial

Intervention duration: 12 months

Length of follow-up from baseline: 3 years. Round 1 of the audit conducted in 2010, round 2 conduct-

ed in 2013

Differences in baseline characteristics: the distribution of the types of trusts, headcounts (number of

staff) and baseline audit scores were comparable between cohorts B and C1

Unit of allocation: workplace

Unit of analysis: workplace

**Participants** 

**Workplace type**: healthcare services. The trial was undertaken in National Health Service (NHS) trusts, organisational units within the health sector. Participating trusts included ambulance, mental health, and acute healthcare services; however, most trusts were from acute healthcare services.

Region: England. Trial included trusts located nation wide.

**Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics**: not reported

Inclusion/exclusion criteria:

Workplaces: all NHS Trusts were eligible to take part in the organisational audits

Employees: not reported

Number of workplaces allocated: 62

Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces:

Cohort C1 (feedback only group)

n (baseline) = 26

n (follow-up) = 26

Cohort B (feedback and workshop group)

n (baseline) = 36

n (follow-up) = 36

Employees: not reported

Recruitment:

Workplaces: not reported

Employees: not reported

Recruitment rate:

Workplaces: 72% (recruitment rate reported is for all cohorts combined, as rates for individual cohorts

were not available)



Jones 2015 (Continued)

Employees: not reported

#### Interventions

## Number of experimental conditions: 2 (2 intervention groups)

## Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

NHS trust implementation of National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) public health workplace related guidance for staff health in the workplace. This includes 6 sets of NICE guidance:

- 1. Obesity: The Prevention, Identification, Assessment and Management of Overweight and Obesity in Adults and Children (NICE 2006);
- 2. Smoking cessation: Smoking: Workplace Interventions (NICE 2007);
- Promoting environments that encourage physical activity: Physical Activity and the Environment (NICE 2008);
- 4. Physical activity: Physical Activity in the Workplace (NICE 2008b);
- 5. Management of long term sickness and absence: Workplace health: long-term sickness absence and incapacity to work (NICE 2009);
- 6. Mental health: Mental Wellbeing at Work (NICE 2009b).

#### Implementation strategies:

## Both experimental groups (cohorts B and C1):

## EPOC: clinical practice guidelines and audit and feedback

Participating NHS trusts completed an organisational audit to assess the extent of implementation of the NICE public health workplace related guidance in their trust. Following submission of their audit data, trusts received feedback via a confidential report presenting their performance data against the national benchmark.

## Cohort B only:

## EPOC: tailored intervention and educational meetings

Following round 1 of the audit, the Health and Workforce Development Unit (HWDU) conducted structured telephone interviews with a sample of trusts who, through their audit scores, were shown to be demonstrating good progress in implementing the NICE workplace guidance (cohort A). These interviews were held to elicit information about organisational barriers to, and enablers for, implementing the guidance. The HWDU then facilitated action planning workshops based on the findings of these interviews with trusts that had demonstrated less progress with implementing the NICE guidance (cohort B). The workshops were used to brief participants on the themes that emerged from the interviews and to support board engagement and better implementation of the NICE workplace guidance. Recipients of workshops were then contacted by phone at 3, 6 and 12 months to check on progress in implementing their action plans.

## Theoretical underpinning of implementation strategies:

Implementation strategies (interviews and action planning workshops) were guided by the Theoretical Domains Framework

#### Outcomes

# Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

Implementation of NICE public health workplace related guidance for staff health promotion in the workplace

**Data collection method**: organisational audit. The audit was based on the 6 pieces of NICE public health workplace related guidance including: obesity; smoking cessation; promoting environments that encourage physical activity; physical activity in the workplace; the management of long-term sickness and absence; and promoting mental well-being. Trust staff self-reported audit data at 2 time points: baseline and 3 years postbaseline via a web-based data collection system. A summary score was devised from the audit to provide an indication of the extent of implementation across the 6 areas of guidance. This scoring system was created by selecting questions (standards) that matched directly



Jones 2015 (Continued)

to recommendations contained in the NICE guidance, and then applying a weighted score which was then transformed into a percentage score. An overall score was calculated from these 6 domains, with possible audit scores ranging from 0 to 100.

Validity of measure: not reported

Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use: not reported

Outcome relating to cost: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

Notes

#### Notes:

This trial included 4 study cohorts, however only 2 (cohorts B and C1) were included in the assessment of implementation outcomes in the review, based on comparability of baseline implementation scores in the organisational audit (both poor performing) and the use of different implementation support approaches 'feedback only' versus 'feedback and workshops'.

Research funding: not reported

Conflicts of interest: study authors did not declare whether they had any conflicts of interest.

#### Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Non-randomised design
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Non-randomised design
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias) Policy or practice implementation	High risk	Self-reported outcome measures
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Unclear risk	Only full cases included in analysis, unknown attrition rates for all groups (Jones 2015, pp 568-9)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear risk	No mention of a priori registration of measures or publication of protocol
Potential confounding	Low risk	Adjustment in baseline differences between two cohorts to minimise confounding (Jones 2015, p 569)
Other bias	Low risk	



#### Parker 2010

Methods

Trial name: Dow Chemical Study

Study design: non-randomised, controlled trial

Intervention duration: 2 years

**Length of follow-up from baseline**: 2 years. Baseline data were collected in April 2006 and final follow-up data were collected in March 2008

**Differences in baseline characteristics**: employees at intervention workplaces were significantly younger, more educated and had a higher proportion of ethnic minorities, whilst a greater number of employees at control workplaces were blue-collar workers and paid an hourly wage. There were no significant differences in gender and health status between groups. Differences in employee baseline characteristics were accounted for using propensity score adjustment

Unit of allocation: workplace

**Unit of analysis:** implementation outcomes were analysed by workplace and health behaviour outcomes were analysed by employees

#### **Participants**

**Workplace type**: manufacturing, research and development, and administrative facilities within a large and diversified chemical, science and technology company

**Region**: USA. Intervention workplaces were located in Texas (n = 8) and Louisiana (n = 1) and control workplaces in West Virginia (n = 1), New Jersey (n = 1) and Louisiana (n = 1)

**Demographic/socioeconomic characteristics**: most (75%) Dow employees were male, 82% were white, and the average age was 43 years

#### Inclusion/exclusion criteria:

Workplaces: not reported

Employees:

## Inclusion:

- Active employee at any of the 12 participating company locations of the Dow Chemical company
- Aged between 18-70 years

## **Exclusion:**

- Employed at a Dow Chemical facility other than one of the 12 participating sites
- · Pregnant women

Number of workplaces allocated: 12

## Numbers by trial group:

Workplaces:

n (controls baseline) = 3

n (controls follow-up) = 3

n (intervention (moderate) baseline) = 4

n (intervention (moderate) follow-up) = 4

n (intervention (high) baseline) = 5

n (intervention (high) follow-up) = 5

*Employees*: employees at all work sites were invited to participate in health risk assessments (HRA) examining health behaviours including: poor nutrition, lack of physical activity, tobacco use, and high al-



#### Parker 2010 (Continued)

cohol use, in addition to biometric screenings to assess weight status and biochemistry measures. The number of employees who participated in HRAs, as well as the subgroup of these employees who participated in the biometric screenings, at both pre and postintervention, was as follows:

HRA cohort:

n (controls) = 529

n (intervention moderate) = 382

n (intervention high) = 1520

Biometric cohort:

n (controls) = 382

n (intervention moderate) = 213

n (intervention high) = 926

#### Recruitment:

Workplaces: workplaces were chosen by Dow's leaders to participate in the trial.

Employees: not reported

#### Recruitment rate:

Workplaces: not reported

*Employees*: a total of n = 10,281 employees across all workplaces were eligible to participate in HRA and biometric screening. Recruitment rates for each were as follows:

HRA cohort: 23.6%

Biometric cohort: 14.8%

# Interventions

**Number of experimental conditions**: 3 (2 intervention - high and moderate intensity, 1 control)

# Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

The intervention targeted organisational practices and policies for nutrition, physical activity and weight control including:

Both moderate- and high-intensity intervention groups:

- Availability of healthy choices (HC) in vending machines: 25% of food items and 40% of beverages to be HC, and HC items labelled
- Availability of HC items at cafeterias: 3 fresh fruit options; 4 vegetable choices; 2 whole grains; 50% of dairy food options HC; 50% of entrees HC; all HC items labelled
- Catering policies: 100% of items in meetings to be HC; 50% of items for special events HC; HC items to be labelled
- Availability of on-site walking paths indicated with signage
- Instalment of employees to serve as health ambassadors 'Healthy Culture Focal Points' (HCFP) for their department or work unit
- Targeted messages to staff to promote healthy eating and physical activity including: email messages; newsletter articles; phone-in sessions; posters; HC labelling; walking path signage
- Instalment of an employee recognition programme to recognise employees adopting or encouraging others to adopt healthy lifestyles
- Availability of an employee weight loss programme including various weight loss activities, resources and one-on-one counselling

High-intensity intervention group only:



#### Parker 2010 (Continued)

- · Incorporation of health promotion objectives into organisational goal setting
- Training of site leadership on staff health promotion
- Use of reward and recognition for site leadership when achieving site health related goals

## Implementation strategies:

## Both moderate and high intensity intervention:

#### **EPOC: tailored intervention**

Formative research was undertaken to collect data on the key target areas for workplace environmental interventions including employees (health and job factors), workplaces (physical environment and current health promotion activities), and corporate and site leaders (social-organisational environment). Focus groups and interviews were conducted with employees and corporate and site leaders to inform the research team about which interventions may be most useful, how the culture of each site may influence the utilisation of potential strategies, and to determine factors that might influence successful implementation of strategies.

## EPOC: local opinion leaders and educational meetings

HCFPs were established as 'wellness ambassadors' at worksites. HCFPs performed duties such as putting up health promotion posters and encouraging healthy food choices at meetings. HCFPs were provided with specific training by the research team.

#### High intensity intervention only:

## **EPOC:** educational meetings

Workplace site leaders received training on health-related topics and ways to encourage employee participation in health promotion programmes.

#### **EPOC: local consensus process**

Health promotion related goals were included in the organisational plans of workplace site leaders.

## EPOC: audit and feedback

Progress reports regarding health promotion and project implementation were provided to site and corporate leaders.

# EPOC: monitoring of performance

Site leaders were held accountable for progressing and achieving planned health promotion-related goals at meetings between site and corporate leaders.

## EPOC: other

Site leaders were recognised and rewarded for achieving health promotion-related goals.

# Theoretical underpinning: Social Ecological Theory

**Description of control**: wait-list control. Control workplaces were instructed not to introduce the new environmental interventions for the 2-year study period. In these workplaces, the Dow companies' standard health promotion programme ran throughout the study period, which included only individually focused health promotion activities.

#### Outcomes

# Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace based policies or practices:

Implementation of workplace physical and social supports to promote healthy eating, physical activity and weight management

**Data collection method**: environmental observation. Workplace environments were assessed using an environmental assessment tool (EAT) at 4 time points: baseline, year 1, year 2 and postintervention (year 3). The EAT contained 105 items. Section I was completed electronically by workplace staff prior to site inspection, and section II was completed by project staff during onsite observations. Because



#### Parker 2010 (Continued)

many of the workplaces were too large for project staff to inspect every building, approximately 6 occupied buildings or areas representative of the workplace and its employees were selected for EAT assessment. Project staff used a scoring rubric to aggregate the EAT responses into a total score (out of 100 points).

**Validity of measure**: environmental observation represents an objective assessment of the work environment. EAT is a validated instrument

## Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:

- Risk of poor nutrition: defined as consuming 4 or more fast food meals per week, 2 or more sweetened beverages per day, or 3 or fewer fruit and vegetable servings per day
- Lack of physical activity: defined as engaging in any moderate or strenuous physical activity less than
  once per week
- Weight (kg)
- BMI (kg/m<sup>2</sup>)
- · Proportion of employees overweight or obese

## Data collection method:

Diet and physical activity measures:

Employee self-reported health risk behaviours were assessed using a standardised HRA survey developed by research organisations participating in National Heart Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) studies. Surveys were completed by employees online at 3 time points: baseline, 1 year and 2 years postbaseline. Behavioural health risk factors were scored using several HRA questions and included indicators for poor nutrition and lack of physical activity.

Weight status measures:

Employee anthropometric measures were collected by health professionals using standardised protocols developed by Dow Health Services

## Validity of measure:

Diet and physical activity: not reported

Weight status: anthropometric measures an objective assessment of weight status

Outcome relating to cost: not reported

Outcome relating to adverse consequences: not reported

#### Notes

**Notes**: this trial reported health behaviour outcomes for employee alcohol use and tobacco use, however as the trial implementation strategy and policies and practices targeted did not include those addressing alcohol and tobacco use, intervention effects on these outcomes were not included in the review

Research funding: funding for this study was provided by the NHLBI (Grant # R01 HL79546)

**Conflicts of interest**: the study authors reported having no conflicts of interest

**Additional information requested from trial authors**: information was requested regarding further details on the specific implementation strategies utilised for moderate- and high-intensity intervention groups. This information was provided and reported accordingly in the results of the review.

## Risk of bias

Bias	Authors' judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High risk	Non-randomised trial



Parker 2010 (Continued)		
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High risk	Non-randomised trial
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	High risk	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation at all organisational levels
Blinding of outcome as- sessment (detection bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Unclear risk	Environment observation assessment undertaken in a total of 6 selected buildings (with assistance of workplace staff from 12-300) per workplace (Parker 2010). Unclear on what basis buildings were selected. Assessment undertaken by research staff. Unclear if blinded
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias) Policy or practice imple- mentation	Low risk	Assessment undertaken at each of 12 sites at each time point (Parker 2010)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear risk	Wilson 2007 indicates primary outcome BMI and development work of environmental assessment tool demonstrates intention to include in outcome assessment. No indications that any predetermined outcomes were otherwise omitted
Potential confounding	High risk	No indication in analysis that adjustment of potential confounders was undertaken (Parker 2010)
Other bias	Low risk	

**BMI**: body mass index; **CHEW**: Checklist of Health Promotion Environments at Worksites; **DFCI**: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute/University of Massachusetts; **EA**: environmental assessment; **EAB**: employee advisory board; **EAT**: environmental assessment tool; **EPOC**: Effective Practice and Organisation of Care; **FFQ**: food frequency questionnaire; **HC**: healthy choices; **HCFP**: Healthy Culture Focal Points; **HRA**: Health Risk Assessments; **MDACC**: MD Anderson Cancer Centre; **NHLB**: National, Heart, Lung and Blood Institute; **PACE**: Physical Activity and Changes in Eating; **UF**: University of Florida.

# **Characteristics of excluded studies** [ordered by study ID]

Study	Reason for exclusion
Abood 2003	Inappropriate intervention
Addley 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Aittasalo 2004	Inappropriate outcome
Aittasalo 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Alkajah 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Andersen L.L 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Andersen L.N 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Andersen L.N 2015	Inappropriate intervention



Study	Reason for exclusion
Ang 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Apostolopoulos 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Arao 2007	Inappropriate intervention
Armitage 2006	Inappropriate intervention
Armitage 2007	Inappropriate intervention
Armitage 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Armitage 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Atlantis 2006	Inappropriate intervention
Audrey 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Backman 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Bale 2015	Inappropriate outcome
Bandoni 2010b	Inappropriate outcome
Barene 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Barene 2014b	Inappropriate intervention
Bellicha 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Bennett 2004	Inappropriate outcome
Beresford 2000	Inappropriate intervention
Beresford 2001	Inappropriate intervention
Berry 1989	Could not obtain full text
Bertera 1993	Inappropriate outcome
Blair 1986	Inappropriate outcome
Blake 2013	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Block 2008	Inappropriate intervention
Bly 1986	Inappropriate outcome
Borg 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Brace 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Brakenridge 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Breeze 2017	Inappropriate outcome



Study	Reason for exclusion
Brehm 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Breslow 1990	Inappropriate outcome
Brown 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Brown 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Buchholz 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Budden 2007	Inappropriate participants
Buller 2000	Inappropriate outcome
Buller 2005	Inappropriate intervention
Buman 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Burnhams 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Campbell 2002	Inappropriate intervention
Caperchione 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Carr 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Cash 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Chapman 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Chau 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Chen 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Christensen 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Christensen 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Coeffeng 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Coffeng 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Coffeng 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Conrad 1996	Inappropriate intervention
Cook 2007	Inappropriate intervention
Cooke 2000	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Crawford 2004	Inappropriate outcome
Cremaschini 2015	Could not obtain full-text
Dalager 2017	Inappropriate outcome



Study	Reason for exclusion
Dallam 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Dallat 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Davy 2014	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
De Bourdeaudhuij 2007	Inappropriate outcome
Deitz 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Dishman 2009	Inappropriate intervention
Dishman 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Donath 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Doumas 2008	Inappropriate participants
Dubuy 2013	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Duffy 2012	Inappropriate participants
Dutta 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Edries 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Emmons 1996	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Emmons 1999	Could not obtain full-text
Engbers 2006	Inappropriate intervention
Erfurt 1991	Inappropriate intervention
Erskine 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Estabrook 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Fagan 2003	Inappropriate intervention
Fagan 2003b	Inappropriate intervention
Faghri 2008	Inappropriate intervention
Fink 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Fitzgerald 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Flannery 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Flannery 2012b	Inappropriate intervention
Fleig 2010	Could not obtain full text
Ford 2014	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator



Study	Reason for exclusion
Freak-Poli 2013b	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
French 2010	Inappropriate outcome
Friedrich 2009	Inappropriate outcome
Friedrich 2015	Inappropriate outcome
Friedrich 2015b	Inappropriate outcome
Gao 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Geaney 2013b	Inappropriate outcome
Gemson 2008	Inappropriate outcome
Glanz 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Glanz 1998b	Inappropriate outcome
Glasgow 1993	Inappropriate intervention
Glasgow 1994	Inappropriate outcome
Glasgow 1995	Inappropriate outcome
Glasgow 1996	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Glasgow 1997	Inappropriate outcome
Goetzel 2005	Inappropriate outcome
Goetzel 2009	Inappropriate outcome
Gosliner 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Gram 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Grande 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Griffin-Blake 2006	Inappropriate intervention
Gritz 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Groeneveld 2008	Inappropriate intervention
Groeneveld 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Hadgraft 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Hagger 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Hall 2015	Inappropriate outcome
Hallam 2004	Inappropriate intervention



Study	Reason for exclusion
Han 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Harden 2017	Inappropriate participants
Harley 2010	Inappropriate participants
Harley 2013	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Harris 2008	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Healy 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Hebert 1993	Inappropriate intervention
Hebert 1993b	Inappropriate outcome
Heirich 2000	Inappropriate intervention
Hermansson 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Hill-Mey 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Holtermann 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Hopkins 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Hopkins 2012b	Inappropriate outcome
Hughes 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Hunt 1993	Could not obtain full text
Hunt 2000	Inappropriate outcome
Hunt 2003	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Hunt 2003b	Inappropriate intervention
Hunt 2007	Inappropriate outcome
Hunt 2007b	Inappropriate outcome
Hunt 2010	Inappropriate participants
Hunter 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Ishii 2007	Inappropriate intervention
Jaime 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Jason 1997	Inappropriate intervention
Jeffery 1993	Inappropriate outcome
Johnson 2010	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator



Study	Reason for exclusion
Kazi 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Kilpatrick 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Kim 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Kim 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Kirchner 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Klatt 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Koffman 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Kolbe-Alexander 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Korshoj 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Kristal 1995	Inappropriate outcome
Kristal 2000	Inappropriate outcome
Kushida 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Kwak 2007	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Kwak 2007b	Inappropriate outcome
Kwak 2009	Inappropriate outcome
LaCaille 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Laing 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
LaMontagne 2004	Inappropriate outcome
LaMontagne 2005	Inappropriate outcome
Lang 2017	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Lapham 2003	Inappropriate outcome
Lawton 2015	Inappropriate outcome
Lemon 2010	Inappropriate outcome
Lemon 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Leslie 2002	Inappropriate intervention
Lillehoj 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Linde 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Lindstrom 2010	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator



Study	Reason for exclusion
Linnan 2002	Inappropriate outcome
Lowe 2010	Inappropriate outcome
Mache 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Mackey 2007	Inappropriate outcome
Mackey 2011	Inappropriate intervention
MacKinnon 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Macniven 2015	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Maes 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Mansi 2013	Inappropriate intervention
Marcus 1998	Inappropriate intervention
Mayer 2010	Inappropriate intervention
McEachan 2011	Inappropriate outcome
Mehta 2013	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Michishita 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Micucci 2007	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Mitchell 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Morgan 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Morgan 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Morton 2011	Inappropriate intervention
Moy 2006	Inappropriate outcome
Mujika 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Murray 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Muto 1998	Inappropriate intervention
Naito 2008	Inappropriate outcome
Neil-Sztramko 2017	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Neuhaus 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Neuhaus 2014b	Inappropriate outcome
Neyens 2017	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator



Study	Reason for exclusion
Nielsen 2006	Inappropriate outcome
Norman 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Nyrop 2011	Inappropriate participants
Okazaki 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Okechukwu 2009	Inappropriate participants
Olson 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Olson 2016	Inappropriate participants
Ostbye 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Osteras 2006	Inappropriate intervention
Parry 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Patterson 1997	Inappropriate outcome
Patterson 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Patterson 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Paul 2013	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Pedersen 2009	Inappropriate intervention
Pedersen 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Pescatello 2001	Inappropriate outcome
Pescud 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Petersen 2008	Inappropriate outcome
Pidd 2015	Inappropriate intervention
Plotnikoff 2005	Inappropriate intervention
Pressler 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Prestwich 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Procter 2014	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Proper 2003	Inappropriate intervention
Puig-Ribera 2008	Inappropriate intervention
Purath 2004	Inappropriate intervention
Reynolds 1997	Inappropriate intervention



Study	Reason for exclusion
Reynolds 2015	Inappropriate outcome
Richmond 1999	Inappropriate outcome
Richmond 2000	Inappropriate outcome
Riley 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Robison 1992	Inappropriate outcome
Robroek 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Robroek 2012b	Inappropriate intervention
Rodríguez-Artalejo 2003	Inappropriate outcome
Salinardi 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Santos 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Schaller 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Schneider 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Schopp 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Schwartz 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Sertel 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Sforzo 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Shore 1994	Inappropriate intervention
Sierra 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Simpson 2000	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Smith-McLallen 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 1990	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Sorensen 1992	Inappropriate intervention
Sorensen 1992b	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 1998b	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 1998c	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Sorensen 1999	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 2002	Inappropriate outcome



Study	Reason for exclusion
Sorensen 2005	Inappropriate outcome
Sorensen 2007	Inappropriate participants
Sorensen 2009	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Sorensen 2010	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Sotos-Prieto 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Steenhuis 2004	Inappropriate outcome
Stephens 2014	Inappropriate intervention
Strijk 2011	Inappropriate outcome
Strijk 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Sumner 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Tan 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Tanaka 2006	Inappropriate outcome
Terry 2011	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Terry 2011b	Inappropriate intervention
Terry 2011c	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Thogersen-Ntoumani 2010	Inappropriate intervention
Thompson 1995	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Thorndike 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Tilley 1997	Inappropriate outcome
Tilley 1998	Inappropriate outcome
Tilley 1999	Inappropriate outcome
Tobin 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Togami 2008	Inappropriate intervention
Townsend 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Tucker 2016	Inappropriate outcome
van Berkel 2011	Inappropriate outcome
van Calster 2017	Inappropriate outcome
van Scheppingen 2014	Inappropriate outcome



Study	Reason for exclusion
Vermeer 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Verweij 2009	Inappropriate outcome
Verweij 2012	Inappropriate outcome
Verweij 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Volpp 2009	Inappropriate intervention
Vyth 2011	Inappropriate outcome
Vyth 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Walters 2003	Inappropriate intervention
Watanabe 2017	Inappropriate outcome
Webb 2013	Inappropriate outcome
Weinhold 2015	Inappropriate intervention
White 2007	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
White 2016	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Wierenga 2012	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Wierenga 2014	Non-controlled study/inappropriate comparator
Willemsen 1998	Inappropriate intervention
Williams 2007	Inappropriate outcome
Williams 2014	Inappropriate outcome
Wilson 2016	Inappropriate outcome
Wilson 2016b	Inappropriate outcome
Yap 2009	Inappropriate intervention
Zavanela 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Zinn 2012	Inappropriate intervention
Zinn 2012b	Inappropriate intervention

# **Characteristics of ongoing studies** [ordered by study ID]

## Hannon 2016

Trial name or title HealthLinks



#### Hannon 2016 (Continued)

Methods **Study design**: randomised controlled trial

Participants Workplace type: small-sized workplaces in low-wage industries

Region: King County Washington, USA

#### Interventions

**Number of experimental conditions**: 3 (2 interventions: HealthLinks and HealthLinks+, and 1 control)

#### Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

Workplace implementation of best-practice strategies for health promotion based on The US Community Preventive Services Task Force (CPSTF) *Guide to Community Preventive Services* including:

#### Healthy eating:

- Introduce policies to offer healthy food options, label them and price them competitively
- · Healthy catering policy for workplace meeting and events

#### Physical activity:

- Negotiate discounts at gyms for local workers
- · Post 'Use the stairs signs'
- Offer physical activity programmes at work

#### Tobacco cessation:

- · Promote and provide information on smoking quit-lines
- · Promote benefits coverage for tobacco cessation

#### Cancer screening:

- · Distribute brochures and posters to educate employees about cancer screening
- Provide brief education sessions at worksites on benefits of cancer screening and available insurance benefits

### Implementation strategies:

#### HealthLinks

- Audit and feedback to assess current workplace implementation of health promotion best practices, including recommendations to improve implementation
- Development of an implementation plan for 3 to 5 best practices to implement, chosen by workplaces
- Support of a project interventionist to implement best practices
- 'Implementation toolkits' with resources to support implementation of best practices

# HealthLinks +

- Implementation support as above, plus
- Establishment of worksite 'wellness committees' to lead implementation of best practices at worksites

#### Outcomes

#### Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace policies or practices:

Workplace implementation of best-practice strategies recommended by the Guide to Community Preventive Services to promote healthy eating, physical activity, tobacco cessation and cancer screening

## Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:

· Changes to employee health behaviours including:



Hannon 2016 (Continued)	<ul> <li>Physical activity levels</li> <li>Tobacco use</li> <li>Dietary behaviours: fruit and vegetable consumption, and fast food and soft drink consumption</li> </ul>
Starting date	Baseline results for trial reported May 2016
Contact information	Associate Professor Peggy Hannon
	Health Promotion Research Centre, Department of Health Services, University of Washington, 1107 NE 45th Street, Ste. 200, Seattle, WA 98015
	peggyh@uw.edu
Notes	<b>Trial registration</b> : trial registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT02005497). Date of registration: 9 December 2013
	Research funding: project supported by grant 5R01CA160217 from the National Cancer Institute
	<b>Additional information requested from trial authors</b> : information was requested regarding whether follow-up data were available to the published design and baseline paper for this trial. Information was provided indicating follow-up data had been collected but was not yet published, therefore this trial was included in the review as an ongoing study.

# NCT02381938

Trial name or title	Care2BWell: Worksite Wellness for Child Care
Methods	Study design: cluster randomised controlled trial
Participants	Workplace type: workplaces in the childcare sector
	Region: North Carolina, USA
Interventions	Number of experimental conditions: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)
	Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:
	Workplace implementation of practices constituting 'comprehensive' workplace health promotion (administrative supports, health education programmes, environmental supports, linkage with other health programmes, and screening)
	Implementation strategies:
	Kick-off workshops
	<ul><li>Wellness campaigns</li><li>Educational webinars for childcare centre directors</li></ul>
Outcomes	Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace policies or practices:
	• Change in childcare centre worksite wellness environment and policies, as assessed by a worksite wellness audit
	Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:
	<ul> <li>Change in employee level of moderate to vigorous physical activity</li> <li>Change in employee dietary intake</li> </ul>
	Change in employee smoking status



NCT02381938 (Continued)	
Starting date	Study commenced March 2015
Contact information	Professor Dianne Ward
	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
	dsward@email.unc.edu
Notes	<b>Trial registration</b> : trial registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT02381938). Date of registration: 6 March 2015
	<b>Research funding</b> : project supported by grant 1R01HL119568-01A1 NIH National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute

# NCT02899442

Study design: randomised controlled trial					
Workplace type: workplaces including night shift work					
Region: Toulouse, France					
Number of experimental conditions: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)					
Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:					
<ul> <li>Improvement of characteristics of night work (rhythm, rest, time to start and to end, schedule forecasted, duration of night work)</li> </ul>					
<ul> <li>Improvement of related conditions at night work (job strain, monotonous or repetitive tasks, manager's help, collective co-operation, light environment, occupational physical activities)</li> <li>Sleep improvements</li> </ul>					
Improvement of dietary intake at work					
Improvement of physical activity practice within the worksite					
Implementation strategies:					
Various strategies will be used to implement collective preventive actions at the worksite level. Collective preventive actions will be implemented by an occupational health team.					
Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace policies or practices:					
Workplace implementation of policies and practices targeting risk factors for cardiovascular disease amongst night shift workers					
Outcome relating to diet, physical activity, weight status, tobacco use or alcohol use:					
A range of employee health behaviour outcomes will be collected and may be appropriate for inclusion.					
Study commenced March 2015					
Doctor Yolande Esquirol					
Toulouse University Hospital (CHU de Toulouse)					
esquirol.y@chu-toulouse.fr					



# NCT02899442 (Continued)

Notes

**Trial registration**: trial registered with ClinicalTrials.gov (NCT02899442). Date of registration: 14 September 2016

Research funding: not reported

# Vasiljevic 2017

Trial name or title	Physical micro-environment interventions for healthier eating in the workplace: a stepped wedge randomised pilot trial					
Methods	Study design: randomised stepped wedge trial					
Participants	<b>Workplace type</b> : workplaces from companies that are members of the Institute for Grocery Distribution (IGD)					
	Region: workplaces from any region in England are eligible					
Interventions	<b>Number of experimental conditions</b> : 3 intervention conditions: portion, package and tableware size; availability of healthier food options; and food calorie content labelling					
	1.Portion, package and tableware size:					
	<ul> <li>Replace currently available higher energy packaged food and drinks in cafeterias with the next, smaller available package size</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Reduce the size of portions of higher energy food and drink items served in cafeterias by approx- imately 10% to 15% relative to the current portion size</li> </ul>					
	<ul> <li>Reduce the size of available glasses, plates, bowls and/or serving cutlery used to serve higher energy food and drink items to the next smaller available size</li> </ul>					
	2. Availability:					
	<ul> <li>Shift the ratio of healthier to less healthy options by reducing higher energy foods and drinks (products or units of the same product) available and increasing lower energy foods and drinks available</li> </ul>					
	3. Labelling:					
	Provide labels on available food and drink items specifying their calorie content					
	Implementation strategies:					
	Various strategies will be employed to assist workplace cafeterias to implement changes to food service practices					
Outcomes	Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace policies or practices:					
	A range of implementation outcomes will be collected and may be appropriate for inclusion.					
Starting date	Study commenced April 2016					
Contact information	Professor Theresa Marteau					
	University of Cambridge Institute of Public Health					
	Forvie Site Cambridge CB2 0SR, United Kingdom					
	tm388@cam.ac.uk					



#### Vasiljevic 2017 (Continued)

Notes

**Trial registration**: trial registered with ISRCTN registry (ISRCTN52923504). Date of registration: 22 September 2016

**Research funding**: study funded by the Department of Health Policy Research Programme (Policy Research Unit in Behaviour and Health [PR-UN-0409- 10109] and the Institute for Grocery Distribution [RG83425])

#### Velema 2017

Trial name or title	Using nudging and social marketing techniques to create healthy worksite cafeterias in the Netherlands: intervention development and study design
Methods	Study design: randomised controlled trial
Participants	Workplace type: not reported
	Region: the Netherlands

#### Interventions

Number of experimental conditions: 2 (1 intervention, 1 control)

#### Policies or practices targeted by the intervention:

The programme Worksite Cafeterias 2.0 is based on the Netherlands *Guidelines for Healthier Canteens*. The guidelines offer strategies for how to arrange a sport, school or a worksite cafeteria to encourage visitors to show healthier eating behaviour. Specific cafeteria practices that will be implemented in the trial include:

#### Product:

- In every food product category at least 1 product of better choice is visibly offered
- A warm lunch meal is also offered in a smaller portion
- · Fruit and vegetables are offered
- · Water is offered for free
- The visible share of healthy (better choice) products is at least 80%
- Salads are offered without dressing and with different vegetables

## Place

:

- Healthy products are in the beginning of the route. These products are: salads, fruit and vegetables, bread, bread topping and healthy sandwiches
- Of every product group the preferred product or presentation of this product is most visible (at front on eye level)
- In the case of a shelf at the cash desk, ensure it is partly filled with fruit and vegetables

#### Price:

- A relatively cheap 'combo deal' is offered with milk/coffee/tea/vegetable juice, sandwich, and fruit
- Prices of unhealthy snacks (e.g. chicken nuggets) are 25% increased and prices of healthy snacks are 25% decreased
- Within a product category, preferred products are 25% lowered in price and exception products are 25% higher in price compared with the normal prices

## Promotion:

- There is only promotion of healthy food products/choices
- When a healthy product is promoted is has a recognizable, permanent spot in the restaurant
- On the menu, e.g. on displays or intranet the healthy products are named first



Velema 2017 (Continued)								
	On the menu healthy dishes are presented in an attractive way							
	Implementation strategies:							
	Training will be provided to cafeteria managers and food service staff to implement cafeteria practices from the <i>Guidelines for Healthier Canteens</i>							
Outcomes	Outcome relating to the implementation of workplace policies or practices:							
	A range of implementation outcomes will be collected and may be appropriate for inclusion.							
Starting date	Study commenced February 2016							
Contact information	Elizabeth Velema							
	Department of Health Sciences and the EMGO+ Institute for Health and Care Research, Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, De Boelelaan 1085, 1081 HV Amsterdam, the Netherlands.							
	e.velema@vu.nl							
Notes	<b>Trial registration</b> : Netherlands Trial register (NTR5372). Date of registration: 20 August 2015.							
	<b>Research funding</b> : funding for the study was obtained from Veneca, the Trade Association of Dutch catering organisations.							
	<b>Additional information requested from trial authors</b> : information was requested regarding whether follow-up data were available to the published protocol paper for this trial. At the time of contact, information was provided indicating results for the trial were not yet published, therefore the trial was included in the review as an ongoing study.							

**CPSTF**: Community Preventive Services Task Force.

# DATA AND ANALYSES

# Comparison 1. Implementation strategy versus control

Outcome or subgroup title	No. of studies	No. of partici- pants	Statistical method	Effect size
1 Implementation score	3	164	Std. Mean Difference (Random, 95% CI)	-0.01 [-0.32, 0.30]

Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Implementation strategy versus control, Outcome 1 Implementation score.

Study or subgroup	Experi- mental	Control	Std. Mean Difference		Std. M	ean Difference		Weight	Std. Mean Difference
	N	N	(SE)		IV, Ra	ndom, 95% CI			IV, Random, 95% CI
Beresford 2010	17	17	0.1 (0.343)					20.77%	0.09[-0.58,0.76]
Biener 1999	42	42	0.1 (0.218)		_			51.33%	0.08[-0.35,0.5]
Hannon 2012	23	23	-0.2 (0.296)	-	-	<del>-   -</del>		27.9%	-0.25[-0.83,0.33]
							1		
		F	avours Control	-1	-0.5	0 0.5	1	Favours In	tervention



Study or subgroup	Experi- mental	Control	Std. Mean Difference		Std. M	ean Diff	erence		Weight	Std. Mean Difference
	N	N	(SE)		IV, Ra	ndom, 9	95% CI			IV, Random, 95% CI
Total (95% CI)					-	<b></b>	-		100%	-0.01[-0.32,0.3]
Heterogeneity: Tau <sup>2</sup> =0; Chi <sup>2</sup> =0	0.89, df=2(P=0.64); I <sup>2</sup> =0	%								
Test for overall effect: Z=0.07(	(P=0.94)									
			Favours Control	-1	-0.5	0	0.5	1	Favours In	tervention

## ADDITIONAL TABLES

Table 1. Summary of workplace settings, interventions, outcomes and effects for included trials: implementation strategies versus no intervention

Trial (study design)	Workplace set- ting	Intervention and comparison (sample sizes)	Implementation outcomes and effects	Secondary outcomes and effects
Bandoni 2010 (RCT)	Workplaces pre- dominantly from industrial sector Region: Brazil	Educational meet- ings and educational materials (15 work- places; 630 employ- ees)  vs  Wait-list control (14 workplaces; 584 em- ployees)	Quantity fruits and vegetables in lunch meals (g/meal), measured via food service manager self-reported survey (validity NR). Greater increase in intervention (adjusted MD 49.05 g, 95% CI 8.38 to 89.71)	Employee fruit and vegetable consumption (g/day), measured via self-reported survey (validity NR). Slightly greater increase in intervention (adjusted effect estimate 11.75 g, 95% CI 2.73 to 20.77)
Beresford 2010 (RCT)	Small- to medi- um-sized work- places in manu- facturing, trans- portation and utilities, and per- sonal and house- hold services in- dustries Region: USA	Tailored intervention; local opinion leaders; local consensus process and educational materials (17 workplaces; nemployees NR)  VS  Wait-list control (17 workplaces; nemployees NR)	Implementation of 11 practices supportive of healthy eating, physical activity and weight control, measured via scores derived from environmental assessment checklist (validity NR). NS difference 9/11 practices. Higher scores in intervention for notices encouraging physical activity (adjusted effect estimate 0.33, 95% CI 0.00 to 0.85) and healthy eating (0.40, 95% CI 0.00 to 1.46)	NR
Biener 1999 (RCT)	Workplaces from manufacturing, communica- tions, public ser- vice and utilities sectors Region: USA	Local opinion leaders; local consensus process; educational meetings; and educational outreach visits (55 workplaces; 8914 employees)  VS  Minimal support control comprising printed health promotion materials (56 work-	Workplace tobacco control policy restrictiveness and compliance, measured via scores derived from employee self-reported survey (validity NR). NS difference restrictiveness: adjusted difference 0.01 (SE 0.09) or compliance: 0.03 (SE 0.07)  % workplaces reporting improvement in cafeteria and vending machine nutrition labelling and healthy catering policy, measured via organisational informant interview (validity NR). NS	Employee smoking prevalence and % of quitters, measured via self-reported survey (validity NR). NS difference in prevalence (difference –0.66%, 95% CI –3.0 to 1.2) or quit rate (1.53%, 95% CI –1.0 to 3.7)  % dietary energy from fat, % increase in fibre (g/1000 kcal, and % increase in fruit and vegetables (servings/day), measured via Block FFQ (validated). Greater increase in intervention fruit and vegetables



# Table 1. Summary of workplace settings, interventions, outcomes and effects for included trials: implementation strategies versus no intervention (Continued)

places; 9291 employees) difference cafeteria labelling (MD 13.4%, P = 0.72) or catering policy (MD 10.9%, P = 0.30). Greater improvement in intervention vending machine labelling (MD 39.6%, P < 0.01)

(adjusted increase 5.6%, SE 1.3, P < 0.001) and % dietary fat lower (adjusted difference -0.35%, SE 0.16, P < 0.05). NS difference fibre (adjusted increase 1.7%, SE 0.87, P > 0.05)

#### Hannon 2012

(RCT)

Low-wage, midsized workplaces predominantly from education, health, manufacturing and retail sectors

Region: USA

Audit and feedback; clinical practice guidelines; local consensus process; educational materials; educational outreach; and tailored intervention (23 workplaces; n employees NR)

٧S

Wait-list control (23 workplaces; n employees NR) Implementation of 16 best practices for health promotion recommended by CPSTF Community Guide; measured via score derived from workplace self-reported survey (validity NR). NS difference in total score mean (SD): intervention baseline 31.5 (8.3), follow-up 39.2 (11.2) vs control baseline 36.8 (11.7), follow-up 42.1 (11.8), P = 0.33

Workplace costs (per worker) for health promotion, measured via workplace self-reported survey (validity NR). Costs increased slightly more in intervention, mean total costs (range): intervention baseline USD 8.30 (0.00 to 35.00), follow-up USD 10.10 (0.00 to 53.00) vs control baseline USD 11.00 (0.00 to 53.00), follow-up USD 11.80 (1.00 to 43.00)

#### Parker 2010

(non-randomised, controlled trial) Manufacturing, research and development and administrative facilities from a large science and technology company

Region: USA

Moderate-intensity intervention: tailored intervention; local opinion leaders; educational meetings

(4 workplaces; 382 employees)

or

High-intensity intervention: moderate strategies + local consensus process; audit and feedback; monitoring of performance; and other (5 workplaces; 1520 employees)

vs

Wait-list control (3 workplaces; 529 employees)

Implementation of policies and practices promoting healthy eating, physical activity and weight control, measured via scores derived from EAT (validated tool). Relative to control, greater increase in total EAT score for moderate intensity intervention (contrast estimate 9.68, SE 3.48, P = 0.009) and high intensity intervention (16.99, SE 3.37, P < 0.001)

% employees classified high risk poor nutrition and poor physical activity, measured via self-reported HRA survey. Relative to control, NS difference for poor nutrition: moderate (estimate –7.7%, P = 0.068), high (–4.6%, P = 0.16), or poor physical activity: moderate (–1.6%, P = 0.77) or high (–0.7%, P = 0.89)

Weight (kg), BMI (kg/m²) and % employees overweight or obese. Relative to control, greater reduction in weight for moderate (estimate –2.1, P = 0.033), high (–1.5, P = 0.015) and in BMI moderate (–0.3, P = 0.034), high (–0.2, P = 0.008). NS difference % obese: moderate (0.1%, P = 0.88), high (0.3%, P =0.95), or % overweight: moderate (4.4%, P = 0.47); high (5.5%, P = 0.22)

**BMI**: body mass index; **CI**: confidence interval; **CPSTF**: Community Preventive Services Task Force, US Department of Health and Human Services; **EAT**: environmental assessment tool; **FFQ**: food frequency questionnaire; **HRA**: health risk assessment; **MD**: mean difference; **NR**: not reported; **NS**: not significant; **RCT**: randomised controlled trial; **SD**: standard deviation; **SE**: standard error.



Table 2. Summary of workplace settings, interventions, outcomes and effects for included trials: implementation strategy versus another implementation strategy

Trial (study de- sign)	Workplace set- ting	Intervention and comparison (sample sizes)	Implementation outcomes and effects	Secondary out- comes and ef- fects
Jones 2015 (non-ran- domised trial)	NHS trusts including ambulance, mental health and acute care	Cohort C1: clinical practice guidelines and audit and feedback (26 workplaces; n employees NR)  vs  Cohort B: clinical practice guidelines; audit and feedback; educational meetings; and tailored intervention (36 workplaces; n employees NR)	Implementation of 6 sets NICE guidance for workplace health promotion addressing: obesity, physical activity, smoking, long-term sickness absence and mental health, measured via score on organisational audit self-reported by staff (validity NR). Greater increase in score for cohort B (adjusted median total score difference: 22.17 vs 4.94, P < 0.001)	NR
Parker 2010 (non-ran- domised con- trolled trial)	Manufacturing, research and development and administrative facilities from a large science and technology company  Region: USA	Moderate-intensity intervention: tailored intervention; local opinion leaders; educational meetings  (4 workplaces; 382 employees)  or  High-intensity intervention: moderate strategies + local consensus process; audit and feedback; monitoring of performance; and other (5 workplaces; 1520 employees)	Implementation of workplace policies and practices promoting healthy eating, physical activity and weight control, measured via scores derived from EAT (validated tool). Greater increase in total EAT score for high-intensity intervention (contrast estimate 7.31, SE 3.10, P = 0.024)	NR

**EAT**: environmental assessment tool; **NHS**: National Health Service; **NICE**: National Institute of Clinical Excellence; **NR**: not reported; **SE**: standard error.

Table 3. Definition of EPOC subcategories utilised in the review

EPOC subcategory	Definition
Audit and feedback	A summary of health workers' performance over a specified period of time, given to them in a written, electronic or verbal format. The summary may include recommendations for clinical action.
Clinical practice guidelines	Clinical guidelines are systematically developed statements to assist healthcare providers and patients to decide on appropriate health care for specific clinical circumstances (US Institute of Medicine).
Educational materials	Distribution to individuals, or groups, of educational materials to support clinical care, i.e. any intervention in which knowledge is distributed. For example this may be facilitated by the Internet, learning critical appraisal skills; skills for electronic retrieval of information, diagnostic formulation; question formulation
Educational meetings	Courses, workshops, conferences or other educational meetings
Educational outreach visits	Personal visits by a trained person to health workers in their own settings, to provide information with the aim of changing practice



# Table 3. Definition of EPOC subcategories utilised in the review (Continued)

Local consensus process	Formal or informal local consensus processes, for example agreeing a clinical protocol to manage a patient group, adapting a guideline for a local health system or promoting the implementation of guidelines
Local opinion leaders	The identification and use of identifiable local opinion leaders to promote good clinical practice
Monitoring the performance of the delivery of healthcare	Monitoring of health services by individuals or healthcare organisations, for example by comparing with an external standard
Tailored interventions	Interventions to change practice that are selected based on an assessment of barriers to change, for example through interviews or surveys.

## APPENDICES

## Appendix 1. Search strategy

Database: MEDLINE 1946 to present with daily update (OVID)

		to p. coo	 paate (0 112)
Search st	rategy:		
# Searche	es		

1 Workplace/

2 Work/

3 Occupational Health/

4 Occupational Medicine/

5 1 or/1-4

6 Health Behavior/

7 Health Education/

8 Health Promotion/

9 Healthy People Programs/

10 exp Primary Prevention/

11 Randomized Controlled Trial/

12 Controlled Clinical Trial/

13 Clinical Trials as Topic/

14 Random Allocation/

15 Evaluation Studies/

16 Comparative Study/

17 random\*.tw.

18 trial.tw.

19 groups.tw.

20 placebo.tw.



21 experiment*.tw.
22 (time adj series).tw.
23 (pretest or pre test or posttest or post test).tw.
24 impact.tw.
25 change*.tw.
26 evaluat*.tw.
27 effect*.tw.
28 "before and after".tw.
29 intervention*.tw.
30 program*.tw.
31 compare*.tw.
32 (control or controls* or controla* or controle* or controli or controll*).tw.
33 or/6-32
34 implement*.mp.
35 dissemin*.mp.
36 adopt*.mp.
37 practice*.mp.
38 organi?ational change*.mp.
39 diffus*.mp.
40 (system* adj2 change*).mp.
41 quality improvement*.mp.
42 transform*.mp.
43 translat*.mp.
44 transfer*.mp.
45 uptake*.mp.
46 sustainab*.mp.
47 institutionali*.mp.
48 routin*.mp.
49 maintenance.mp.
50 capacity.mp.
51 incorporat*.mp.
52 adher*.mp.
53 integrat*.mp.
54 scal*.mp.

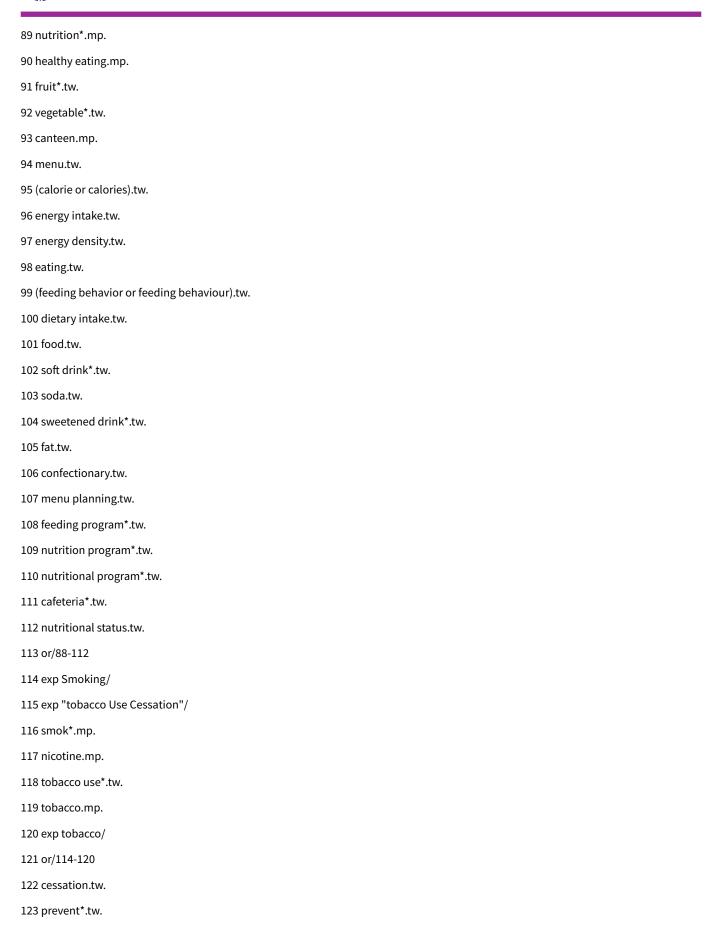


55 ((polic\* or practice\* or program\* or innovation\*) adj5 (performance or feedback or prompt\* or reminder\* or incentive\* or penalt\* or communicat\* or social market\* or professional development or network\* or leadership or opinion leader\* or consensus process\* or change manage\* or train\* or audit\*)).mp.

manage* or train* or audit*)).mp.
56 or/34-55
57 exp Obesity/
58 Weight Gain/
59 exp Weight Loss/
60 obes*.af.
61 (weight gain or weight loss).af.
62 (overweight or over weight or overeat* or over eat*).af.
63 weight change*.af.
64 ((bmi or body mass index) adj2 (gain or loss or change)).af.
65 exp Primary Prevention/
66 (primary prevention or secondary prevention).af.
67 (preventive measure* or preventative measure*).af.
68 (preventive care or preventative care).af.
69 (obesity adj2 (prevent* or treat*)).af.
70 or/57-69
71 exp Exercise/
72 physical inactivity.mp.
73 physical activity.mp.
74 exp Motor Activity/
75 (physical education and training).mp.
76 exp "Physical Education and Training"/
77 Physical Fitness/
78 sedentary.tw.
79 exp Life Style/
80 exp Leisure Activities/
81 exp Sports/
82 Dancing/
83 dancing.mp.
84 (exercise* adj aerobic*).tw.
85 sport*.tw.
86 ((life style or life style) adj5 activ*).tw.
87 or/71-86

88 exp Diet/







124 stop*.tw.			
125 quit*.tw.			
126 abstin*.tw.			
127 abstain*.tw.			
128 reduc*.tw.			
129 "tobacco use disorder".mp.			
130 ex-smoker*.mp.			
131 anti-smok*.mp.			
132 or/122-131			
133 121 and 132			
134 exp Alcohols/			
135 exp Alcohol Drinking/			
136 exp Alcohol Abuse/			
137 exp Alcohol, Ethyl/ae			
138 alcohol*.mp.			
139 Drink*.mp.			
140 liquor*.mp.			
141 beer*.mp.			
142 wine*.mp.			
143 spirit*.mp.			
144 drunk*.mp.			
145 intoxicat*.mp.			
146 binge.mp.			
147 or/134-146			
148 70 or 87 or 113 or or 133 or 147			
149 5 and 33 and 56 and 148			
Database: MEDLINE In-Process & O	ther Non-Indexed Citations (	(OVID)	
Search strategy:			
# Searches			
1 workplace*.mp.			
2 work.mp.			
3 Occupational Health.mp.			
4 Occupational Medicine.mp.			
5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4			
6 Health Behavio?r*.mp.			







42 transfer*.mp.
43 uptake*.mp.
44 sustainab*.mp.
45 institutionali*.mp.
46 routin*.mp.
47 maintenance.mp.
48 capacity.mp.
49 incorporat*.mp.
50 adher*.mp.
51 integrat*.mp.
52 scal*.mp.
53 ((polic* or practice* or program* or innovation*) adj5 (performance or feedback or prompt* or reminder* or incentive* or penalt* or communicat* or social market* or professional development or network* or leadership or opinion leader* or consensus process* or change manage* or train* or audit*)).mp.
54 or/32-53
55 exp Obesity/
56 Weight Gain/
57 exp Weight Loss/
58 obes*.af.
59 (weight gain or weight loss).af.
60 (overweight or over weight or overeat* or over eat*).af.
61 weight change*.af.
62 ((bmi or body mass index) adj2 (gain or loss or change)).af.
63 exp Primary Prevention/
64 (primary prevention or secondary prevention).af.
65 (preventive measure* or preventative measure*).af.
66 (preventive care or preventative care).af.
67 (obesity adj2 (prevent* or treat*)).af.
68 or/55-67
69 exp Exercise/
70 physical inactivity.mp.
71 physical activity.mp.
72 exp Motor Activity/
73 (physical education and training).mp.
74 exp "Physical Education and Training"/
75 Physical Fitness/



76 sedentary.tw.	
77 exp Life Style/	
78 exp Leisure Activities/	
79 exp Sports/	
80 Dancing/	
81 dancing.mp.	
82 (exercise* adj aerobic*).tw.	
83 sport*.tw.	
84 ((life style or life style) adj5 activ*).tw.	
85 or/69-84	
86 exp Diet/	
87 nutrition*.mp.	
88 healthy eating.mp.	
89 fruit*.tw.	
90 vegetable*.tw.	
91 canteen.mp.	
92 menu.tw.	
93 (calorie or calories).tw.	
94 energy intake.tw.	
95 energy density.tw.	
96 eating.tw.	
97 (feeding behavior or feeding behaviour).tw.	
98 dietary intake.tw.	
99 food.tw.	
100 soft drink*.tw.	
101 soda.tw.	
102 sweetened drink*.tw.	
103 fat.tw.	
104 confectionary.tw.	
105 menu planning.tw.	
106 feeding program*.tw.	
107 nutrition program*.tw.	
108 nutritional program*.tw.	
109 cafeteria*.tw.	
110 nutritional status.tw.	







146 68 or 85 or 111 or 131 or 145

147 5 and 31 and 54 and 146

Database: PsycINFO 1806 to May 2016 (OVID)
Search strategy:
# Searches
1 WORKPLACE INTERVENTION/ or Workplace.mp.
2 work.mp.
3 exp Occupational Health/
4 Occupational Medicine.mp.
5 1 or 2 or 3 or 4
6 Health Behavior/
7 Health Education/
8 Health Promotion/
9 Healthy People Program*.mp.
10 Primary prevention.mp.
11 exp Clinical Trials/
12 Evaluation Stud*.mp.
13 Comparative Stud*.mp.
14 random*.tw.
15 trial.tw.
16 groups.tw.
17 placebo.tw.
18 experiment*.tw.
19 (time adj series).tw.
20 (pretest or pre test or posttest or post test).tw.
21 impact.tw.
22 change*.tw.
23 evaluat*.tw.
24 effect*.tw.
25 "before and after".tw.
26 intervention*.tw.
27 program*.tw.
28 compare*.tw.

29 (control or controls\* or controla\* or controle\* or controli or controll\*).tw.

30 or/6-29

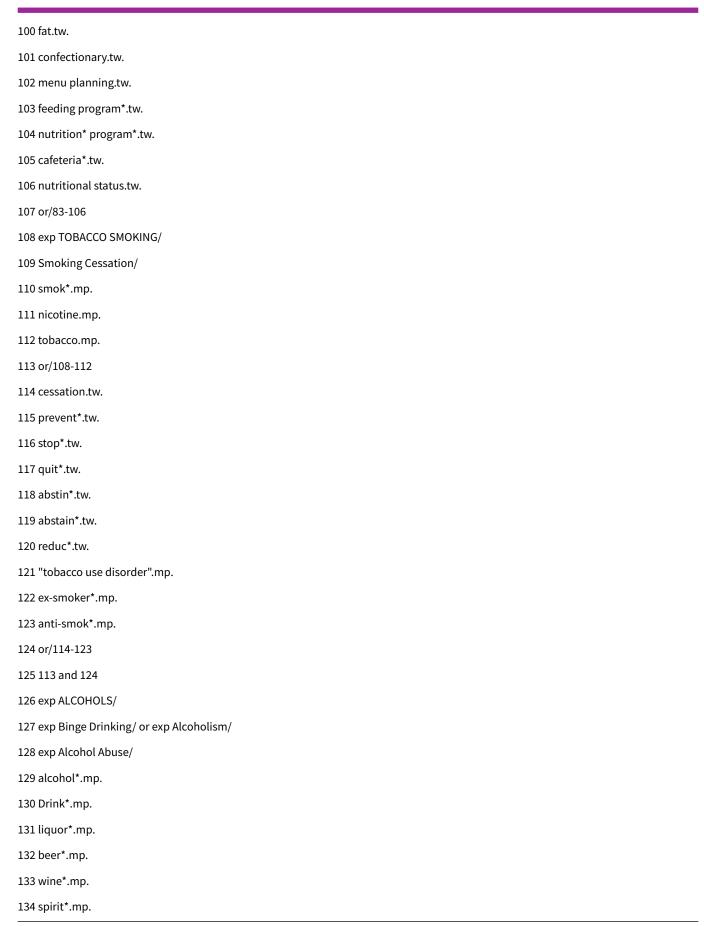


31 implement*.mp.
32 dissemin*.mp.
33 adopt*.mp.
34 practice*.mp.
35 organi?ational change*.mp.
36 diffus*.mp.
37 (system* adj2 change*).mp.
38 quality improvement*.mp.
39 transform*.mp.
40 translat*.mp.
41 transfer*.mp.
42 uptake*.mp.
43 sustainab*.mp.
44 institutionali*.mp.
45 routin*.mp.
46 maintenance.mp.
47 capacity.mp.
48 incorporat*.mp.
49 adher*.mp.
50 integrat*.mp.
51 scal*.mp.
52 ((polic* or practice* or program* or innovation*) adj5 (performance or feedback or prompt* or reminder* or incentive* or penalt* o communicat* or social market* or professional development or network* or leadership or opinion leader* or consensus process* or change manage* or train* or audit*)).mp.
53 or/31-52
54 Obesity/
55 Weight Gain/
56 Weight Loss/
57 obes*.af.
58 (weight gain or weight loss).af.
59 (overweight or over weight or overeat* or over eat*).af.
60 weight change*.af.
61 ((bmi or body mass index) adj2 (gain or loss or change)).af.
62 (primary prevention or secondary prevention).af.
63 (preventive measure* or preventative measure*).af.
64 (preventive care or preventative care).af.



65 (obesity adj2 (prevent* or treat*)).af.
66 or/54-65
67 exp EXERCISE/
68 physical inactivity.mp.
69 exp Physical Activity/
70 Motor Activity.mp.
71 (physical education and training).mp.
72 exp Physical Education/
73 Physical Fitness/
74 exp SEDENTARY BEHAVIOR/ or sedentary.mp.
75 exp Lifestyle/
76 exp Leisure Time/ or Leisure Activities.mp.
77 exp SPORTS/
78 exp Dance/ or Dancing.mp.
79 (exercise* adj aerobic*).tw.
80 sport*.tw.
81 ((life style or life style) adj5 activ*).tw.
82 or/67-81
83 Diet.mp.
84 nutrition*.mp.
85 healthy eating.mp.
86 fruit*.tw.
87 vegetable*.tw.
88 canteen.mp.
89 menu.tw.
90 (calorie or calories).tw.
91 energy intake.tw.
92 energy density.tw.
93 eating.tw.
94 (feeding behavior or feeding behaviour).tw.
95 dietary intake.tw.
96 food.tw.
97 soft drink*.tw.
98 soda.tw.
99 sweetened drink*.tw.







135 drunk\*.mp. 136 intoxicat\*.mp. 137 binge.mp. 138 or/126-137 139 66 or 82 or 107 or 125 or 138 140 5 and 30 and 53 and 139 141 1 or 3 or 4 142 30 and 53 and 139 and 141 Database: CINAHL (EBSCO) # Query S1 (MH "Work Environment") OR "Workplace" S2 (MH "Work") S3 (MH "Occupational Health") S4 (MH "Occupational Medicine") S5 S1 OR S2 OR S3 OR S4 S6 (MH "Health Behavior") S7 (MH "Health Education") S8 (MH "Health Promotion") S9 Healthy People Program\* S10 (MH "Preventive Health Care") OR "Primary Prevention" S11 (MH "Randomized Controlled Trials") S12 (MH "Clinical Trials+") S13 (MH "Random Assignment") S14 (MH "Evaluation Research") S15 (MH "Comparative Studies") S16 TI random\* OR AB random\* S17 TI trial OR AB trial S18 TI groups OR AB groups S19 TI placebo OR AB placebo

S20 TI experiment\* OR AB experiment\*

S21 TI (time n1 series) OR AB (time n1 series)

S22 TI ( (pretest or pre test or posttest or post test) ) OR AB ( (pretest or pre test or posttest or post test) )

S23 TI impact OR AB impact

S24 TI change\* OR AB change\*

S25 TI evaluat\* OR AB evaluat\*



S26 TI effect\* OR AB effect\* S27 TI ("before and after") OR AB ("before and after") S28 TI intervention\* OR AB intervention\* S29 TI program\* OR AB program\* S30 TI compare\* OR AB compare\* S31 TI ((control or controls\* or controla\* or controle\* or controli or controll\*)) OR AB ((control or controls\* or controla\* or controle\* or controli or controll\*)) S32 S6 OR S7 OR S8 OR S9 OR S10 OR S11 OR S12 OR S13 OR S14 OR S15 OR S16 OR S17 OR S18 OR S19 OR S20 OR S21 OR S22 OR S23 OR S24 OR S25 OR S26 OR S27 OR S28 OR S29 OR S30 OR S31 S33 implement\* S34 dissemin\* S35 adopt\* S36 practice\* S37 "organi?ational change\*" S38 diffus\* S39 (system\* n2 change\*) S40 "quality improvement\*" S41 transform\* S42 translat\* S43 transfer\* S44 uptake\* S45 sustainab\* S46 institutionali\* S47 routin\* S48 maintenance S49 capacity S50 incorporat\* S51 adher\* S52 integrat\* S53 scal\* S54 ((polic\* or practice\* or program\* or innovation\*) n5 (performance or feedback or prompt\* or reminder\* or incentive\* or penalt\* or communicat\* or social market\* or professional development or network\* or leadership or opinion leader\* or consensus process\* or change manage\* or train\* or audit\*)) S55 S33 OR S34 OR S35 OR S36 OR S37 OR S38 OR S39 OR S40 OR S41 OR S42 OR S43 OR S44 OR S45 OR S46 OR S47 OR S48 OR S49 OR S50 OR S51 OR S52 OR S53 OR S54 S56 (MH "Obesity+") S57 (MH "Weight Gain")



```
S58 (MH "Weight Loss+")
S59 obes*
S60 (weight gain or weight loss)
S61 (overweight or over weight or overeat* or over eat*)
S62 "weight change*"
S63 ((bmi or body mass index) n2 (gain or loss or change))
S64 (primary prevention or secondary prevention)
S65 (preventive measure* or preventative measure*)
S66 (preventive care or preventative care)
S67 S56 OR S57 OR S58 OR S59 OR S60 OR S61 OR S62 OR S63 OR S64 OR S65 OR S66
S68 (MH "Exercise+")
S69 "physical inactivity"
S70 (MH "Physical Activity")
S71 (MH "Motor Activity+")
S72 (MH "Physical Education and Training")
S73 "physical education and training"
S74 (MH "Physical Fitness")
S75 TI sedentary OR AB sedentary
S76 (MH "Life Style+")
S77 (MH "Leisure Activities+")
S78 (MH "Sports+")
S79 (MH "Dancing") OR "Dancing"
S80 TI (exercise* n1 aerobic*) OR AB (exercise* n1 aerobic*)
S81 TI sport* OR AB sport*
S82 TI ( ((life style or life style) n5 activ*) ) OR AB ( ((life style or life style) n5 activ*) )
S83 S68 OR S69 OR S70 OR S71 OR S72 OR S73 OR S74 OR S75 OR S76 OR S77 OR S78 OR S79 OR S80 OR S81 OR S82
S84 (MH "Diet+")
S85 "nutrition*"
S86 "healthy eating"
S87 TI fruit* OR AB fruit*
S88 TI vegetable* OR AB vegetable*
S89 canteen
S90 TI menu OR AB menu
S91 TI ((calorie or calories)) OR AB ((calorie or calories))
S92 TI "energy intake" OR AB "energy intake"
```



S93 TI "energy density" OR AB "energy density"

S94 TI eating OR AB eating

S95 TI ( (feeding behavior or feeding behaviour) ) OR AB ( (feeding behavior or feeding behaviour) )

S96 TI "dietary intake" OR AB "dietary intake"

S97 TI food OR AB food

S98 TI "soft drink\*" OR AB "soft drink\*"

S99 TI soda OR AB soda

S100 TI "sweetened drink\*" OR AB "sweetened drink\*"

S101 TI fat OR AB fat

S102 TI confectionary OR AB confectionary

S103 TI "menu planning" AND AB "menu planning"

S104 TI "feeding program\*" OR AB "feeding program\*"

S105 TI "nutrition program\*" OR AB "nutrition program\*"

S106 TI "nutritional program\*" OR AB "nutritional program\*"

S107 TI cafeteria\* OR AB cafeteria\*

S108 TI "nutritional status" OR AB "nutritional status"

S109 S84 OR S85 OR S86 OR S87 OR S88 OR S89 OR S90 OR S91 OR S92 OR S93 OR S94 OR S95 OR S96 OR S97 OR S98 OR S99 OR S100 OR S101 OR S102 OR S103 OR S104 OR S105 OR S106 OR S107 OR S108

S110 (MH "Smoking+")

S111 (MH "Smoking Cessation Programs")

S112 smok\*

S113 nicotine

S114 (MH "Tobacco+") OR "tobacco"

S115 S110 OR S111 OR S112 OR S113 OR S114

S116 TI cessation OR AB cessation

S117 TI prevent\* OR AB prevent\*

S118 TI stop\* OR AB stop\*

S119 TI quit\* OR AB quit\*

S120 TI abstin\* OR AB abstin\*

S121 TI abstain\* OR AB abstain\*

S122 TI reduc\* OR AB reduc\*

S123 TI "tobacco use disorder" OR AB "tobacco use disorder"

S124 TI ex-smoker\* OR AB ex-smoker\*

S125 TI anti-smok\* OR AB anti-smok\*

S126 S116 OR S117 OR S118 OR S119 OR S120 OR S121 OR S122 OR S123 OR S124 OR S125



S127 S115 AND S126

S128 (MH "Alcohols+")

S129 (MH "Alcohol Drinking+")

S130 (MH "Alcohol Abuse")

S131 alcohol\*

S132 Drink\*

S133 liquor\*

S134 beer\*

S135 wine\*

S136 spirit\*

S137 drunk\*

S138 intoxicat\*

S139 binge

S140 S128 OR S129 OR S130 OR S131 OR S132 OR S133 OR S134 OR S135 OR S136 OR S137 OR S138 OR S139

S141 S67 OR S83 OR S109 OR S127 OR S140

S142 S5 AND S32 AND S55 AND S141

### **Database: the Cochrane Library (Wiley)**

**ID Search** 

#1 MeSH descriptor: [Workplace] this term only

#2 MeSH descriptor: [Work] this term only

#3 MeSH descriptor: [Occupational Health] this term only

#4 MeSH descriptor: [Occupational Medicine] this term only

#5 {or #1-#4}

#6 MeSH descriptor: [Health Behavior] this term only

#7 MeSH descriptor: [Health Education] this term only

#8 MeSH descriptor: [Health Promotion] this term only

#9 MeSH descriptor: [Healthy People Programs] this term only

#10 MeSH descriptor: [Primary Prevention] explode all trees

#11 MeSH descriptor: [Randomized Controlled Trial] this term only

 $\hbox{\tt\#12 MeSH descriptor:} \ [\hbox{\tt Controlled Clinical Trial}] \ \hbox{\tt this term only}$ 

#13 MeSH descriptor: [Clinical Trials as Topic] this term only

#14 MeSH descriptor: [Random Allocation] this term only

#15 MeSH descriptor: [Evaluation Studies] this term only

#16 MeSH descriptor: [Comparative Study] this term only

#17 random\*:ti,ab







#53 integrat\*

#54 scal\*

#55 ((polic\* or practice\* or program\* or innovation\*) near/5 (performance or feedback or prompt\* or reminder\* or incentive\* or penalt\* or communicat\* or social market\* or professional development or network\* or leadership or opinion leader\* or consensus process\* or change manage\* or train\* or audit\*))

#56 {or #34-#55}

#57 MeSH descriptor: [Obesity] explode all trees

#58 MeSH descriptor: [Weight Gain] this term only

#59 MeSH descriptor: [Weight Loss] this term only

#60 obes\*

#61 (weight gain or weight loss)

#62 (overweight or over weight or overeat\* or over eat\*)

#63 weight change\*

#64 ((bmi or body mass index) near/2 (gain or loss or change))

#65 MeSH descriptor: [Primary Prevention] explode all trees

#66 (primary prevention or secondary prevention)

#67 (preventive measure\* or preventative measure\*)

#68 (preventive care or preventative care)

#69 (obesity near/2 (prevent\* or treat\*))

#70 {or #57-#69}

#71 MeSH descriptor: [Exercise] explode all trees

#72 physical inactivity

#73 physical activity

#74 MeSH descriptor: [Motor Activity] explode all trees

#75 "physical education and training"

#76 MeSH descriptor: [Physical Education and Training] explode all trees

#77 MeSH descriptor: [Physical Fitness] this term only

#78 sedentary:ti,ab

#79 MeSH descriptor: [Life Style] explode all trees

#80 MeSH descriptor: [Leisure Activities] explode all trees

#81 MeSH descriptor: [Sports] explode all trees

#82 MeSH descriptor: [Dancing] this term only

#83 dancing

#84 (exercise\* near/1 aerobic\*)

#85 sport\*:ti,ab

#86 ((life style or life style) near/5 activ\*):ti,ab



#87 {or #71-#86}

#88 MeSH descriptor: [Diet] explode all trees

#89 nutrition\*

#90 healthy eating

#91 fruit\*:ti,ab

#92 vegetable\*:ti,ab

#93 canteen

#94 menu:ti,ab

#95 (calorie or calories):ti,ab

#96 energy intake:ti,ab

#97 energy density:ti,ab

#98 eating:ti,ab

#99 (feeding behavior or feeding behaviour):ti,ab

#100 dietary intake:ti,ab

#101 food:ti,ab

#102 soft drink\*:ti,ab

#103 soda:ti,ab

#104 sweetened drink\*:ti,ab

#105 fat:ti,ab

#106 confectionary:ti,ab

#107 menu planning:ti,ab

#108 feeding program\*:ti,ab

#109 nutrition program\*:ti,ab

#110 nutritional program\*:ti,ab

#111 cafeteria\*:ti,ab

#112 nutritional status:ti,ab

#113 {or #88-#112}

#114 MeSH descriptor: [Smoking] explode all trees

#115 MeSH descriptor: [Tobacco Use Cessation] explode all trees

#116 smok\*

#117 nicotine

#118 tobacco use\*

#119 tobacco

#120 MeSH descriptor: [Tobacco] explode all trees

#121 {or #114-#120}



#122 cessation:ti,ab #123 prevent\*:ti,ab #124 stop\*:ti,ab #125 quit\*:ti,ab #126 abstin\*:ti,ab #127 abstain\*:ti,ab #128 reduc\*:ti,ab #129 "tobacco use disorder":ti,ab #130 ex-smoker\*:ti,ab #131 anti-smok\*:ti,ab #132 {or #122-#131} #133 {and #121, #132} #134 MeSH descriptor: [Alcohols] explode all trees #135 MeSH descriptor: [Alcohol Drinking] explode all trees #136 MeSH descriptor: [Alcoholism] explode all trees #137 MeSH descriptor: [Ethanol] explode all trees #138 alcohol\* #139 Drink\* #140 liquor\* #141 beer\* #142 wine\* #143 spirit\* #144 drunk\* #145 intoxicat\* #146 binge #147 {or #134-#146} #148 {or #70, #87, #113, #133, #147} #149 {and #5, #33, #56, #148}

### **Database: ERIC (Proquest)**

Work or workplace or "occupational medicine" or "occupational health"

And

"health behavior\*" or "health behaviour\*" or "health education" or "health promotion" or "primary prevention" or random\* or "evaluation stud\*" or "comparative stud\*" or trial or groups or placebo or experiment\* or (time and series) or pretest or "pre test" or posttest or "post test" or impact or change\* or evaluat\* or effect\* or "before and after" or intervention\* or program\* or compare\* or control or controls\* or controle\* or controle\* or control!

and



implement\* or disseminat\* or adopt\* or practice\* or organi?ational change\* or diffus\* or (system\* and change\*) or quality improvement\* or transform\* or translat\* or transfer\* or uptake\* or sustainab\* or institutionali\* or routin\* or maintenance or capacity or incorporat\* or adher\* or integrat\* or scal\* or ((polic\* or practice\* or program\* or innovation\*) and (performance or feedback or prompt\* or reminder\* or incentive\* or penalt\* or communicat\* or social market\* or professional development or network\* or leadership or opinion leader\* or consensus process\* or change manage\* or train\* or audit\*))

and

obes\* or weight gain or weight loss or overweight or over weight or overeat\* or over eat\* or weight change\* or ((bmi or body mass index) and (gain or loss or change)) or primary prevention or secondary prevention or preventive measure\* or preventative measure\* or preventative measure\* or preventative care or (obesity and (prevent\* or treat\*)) or exercise or physical inactivity or physical activity or Motor Activity or (physical education and training) or Physical Fitness or sedentary or Life Style or Leisure Activiti\* or sport\* or dancing or diet or nutrition\* or healthy eating or fruit\* or vegetable\* or canteen or food or menu or calorie or calories or energy intake or energy density or eating or feeding behavior or feeding behaviour or dietary intake or soft drink\* or soda or sweetened drink\* or fat or confectionary or feeding program\* or cafeteria\* or ((smok\* or tobacco or nictotine) and (cessation or stop\* or quit\* or abstin\* or abstain\* or reduc\* or ex-smoker\* or anti-smok\*)) or alcohol\* or drink\* or liquor\* or beer\* or wine\* or spirit\* or drunk\* or intoxicat\* or binge

### **Database: Dissertations and Theses**

Title: workplace or work or occupational health or occupational medicine

AND

Title: alcohol or smoking or tobacco or lifestyle or diet or nutrition or healthy eating or physical activity or exercise or obesity or weight

### **Database: SCOPUS (SCOPUS website)**

TITLE-ABS-KEY (workplace OR "occupational medicine" OR "occupational health")

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY ("health behavior\*" OR "health behaviour\*" OR "health education" OR "health promotion" OR "primary prevention" OR random\* OR "evaluation stud\*" OR "comparative stud\*" OR trial OR groups OR placebo OR experiment\* OR (time AND series) OR pretest OR "pre test" OR posttest OR "post test" OR impact OR change\* OR evaluat\* OR effect\* OR "before and after" OR intervention\* OR program\* OR compare\* OR control OR controls\* OR controls\*

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (implement\* OR disseminat\* OR adopt\* OR practice\* OR organi?ational change\* OR diffus\* OR (system\* AND change\*) OR quality improvement\* OR transform\* OR transfar\* OR uptake\* OR sustainab\* OR institutionali\* OR routin\* OR maintenance OR capacity OR incorporat\* OR adher\* OR integrat\* OR scal\* OR ( (polic\* OR practice\* OR program\* OR innovation\*) AND (performance OR feedback OR prompt\* OR reminder\* OR incentive\* OR penalt\* OR communicat\* OR social market\* OR professional development OR network\* OR leadership OR opinion leader\* OR consensus process\* OR change manage\* OR train\* OR audit\* ) ) )

AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (obes\* or weight gain or weight loss or overweight or over weight or overeat\* or over eat\* or weight change\* or ((bmi or body mass index) and (gain or loss or change)) or primary prevention or secondary prevention or preventive measure\* or preventative measure\* or preventative care or (obesity and (prevent\* or treat\*)) or exercise or physical inactivity or physical activity or Motor Activity or (physical education and training) or Physical Fitness or sedentary or Life Style or Leisure Activiti\* or sport\* or dancing or diet or nutrition\* or healthy eating or fruit\* or vegetable\* or canteen or food or menu or calorie or calories or energy intake or energy density or eating or feeding behavior or feeding behaviour or dietary intake or soft drink\* or soda or sweetened drink\* or fat or confectionary or feeding program\* or cafeteria\* or ((smok\* or tobacco or nictotine) and (cessation or stop\* or quit\* or abstin\* or abstain\* or reduc\* or exsmoker\* or anti-smok\*)) or alcohol\* or drink\* or liquor\* or beer\* or wine\* or spirit\* or drunk\* or intoxicat\* or binge)

AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA, "MEDI") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA, "SOCI") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA, "NURS") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA, "HEAL")) AND (LIMIT-TO (EXACTKEYWORD, "Humans")) AND (EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "BUSI") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "CHEM") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "COMP") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "DECI") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "ARTS") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "ECON") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "PHYS") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "MATH") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "ENER") OR EXCLUDE (SUBJAREA, "VETE"))

### Database: the Campbell Library (the Campbell Library Website)

Work OR workplace or occupational health OR occupational medicine (separate searches)

### Appendix 2. 'Risk of bias' assessment tool

### **RANDOM SEQUENCE GENERATION**



(Continued)

### Selection bias (biased allocation to interventions) due to inadequate generation of a randomised sequence

## Criteria for the judgement of a 'High risk' of bias

The investigators describe a non-random component in the sequence generation process. Usually, the description would involve some systematic, non-random approach, for example:

- · Sequence generated by odd or even date of birth
- Sequence generated by some rule based on date (or day) of admission
- · Sequence generated by some rule based on hospital or clinic record number

Other non-random approaches happen much less frequently than the systematic approaches mentioned above and tend to be obvious. They usually involve judgement or some method of non-random categorisation of participants, for example:

- Allocation by judgement of the clinician
- Allocation by preference of the participant
- Allocation based on the results of a laboratory test or a series of tests
- Allocation by availability of the intervention

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

The investigators describe a random component in the sequence generation process such as:

- Referring to a random number table
- · Using a computer random number generator
- · Coin tossing
- Shuffling cards or envelopes
- · Throwing dice
- · Drawing of lots
- Minimisation\*

\*Minimisation may be implemented without a random element, and this is considered to be equivalent to being random

## Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias

Insufficient information about the sequence generation process to permit judgement of low or high

### **ALLOCATION CONCEALMENT**

### Selection bias (biased allocation to interventions) due to inadequate concealment of allocations prior to consignment

## Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias

Participants or investigators enrolling participants could possibly foresee assignments and thus introduce selection bias, such as allocation based on:

- Using an open random allocation schedule (e.g. a list of random numbers)
- Assignment envelopes were used without appropriate safeguards (e.g. if envelopes were unsealed or non-opaque or not sequentially numbered)
- Alternation or rotation:
- · Date of birth;
- · Case record number;
- Any other explicitly unconcealed procedure

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Participants and investigators enrolling participants could not foresee assignment because one of the following, or an equivalent method, was used to conceal allocation:

- Central allocation (including telephone, web-based and pharmacy-controlled randomisation)
- Sequentially numbered drug containers of identical appearance
- Sequentially numbered, opaque, sealed envelopes

## Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias

Insufficient information to permit judgement of low or high risk. This is usually the case if the method of concealment is not described or not described in sufficient detail to allow a definite



(Continued)

judgement - for example if the use of assignment envelopes is described, but it remains unclear whether envelopes were sequentially numbered, opaque and sealed

#### **BLINDING OF PARTICIPANTS AND PERSONNEL**

### Performance bias due to knowledge of the allocated interventions by participants and personnel during the study

## Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- · No blinding or incomplete blinding, and the outcome is likely to be influenced by lack of blinding;
- Blinding of key study participants and personnel attempted, but likely that the blinding could have been broken, and the outcome is likely to be influenced by lack of blinding

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- No blinding or incomplete blinding, but the review authors judge that the outcome is not likely to be influenced by lack of blinding
- Blinding of participants and key study personnel ensured, and unlikely that the blinding could have been broken

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- No blinding or incomplete blinding, but the review authors judge that the outcome is not likely to be influenced by lack of blinding
- Blinding of participants and key study personnel ensured, and unlikely that the blinding could have been broken

### **BLINDING OF OUTCOME ASSESSMENT**

### Detection bias due to knowledge of the allocated interventions by outcome assessors

## Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- No blinding of outcome assessment, and the outcome measurement is likely to be influenced by lack of blinding
- Blinding of outcome assessment, but likely that the blinding could have been broken, and the outcome measurement is likely to be influenced by lack of blinding.

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- No blinding of outcome assessment, but the review authors judge that the outcome measurement is not likely to be influenced by lack of blinding;
- Blinding of outcome assessment ensured, and unlikely that the blinding could have been broken

## Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- Insufficient information to permit judgement of low or high risk
- The study did not address this outcome

### **INCOMPLETE OUTCOME DATA**

### Attrition bias due to amount, nature or handling of incomplete outcome data

## Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- Reason for missing outcome data likely to be related to true outcome, with either imbalance in numbers or reasons for missing data across intervention groups
- For dichotomous outcome data, the proportion of missing outcomes compared with observed event risk enough to induce clinically relevant bias in intervention effect estimate



(Continued)

- For continuous outcome data, plausible effect size (difference in means or standardised difference in means) among missing outcomes enough to induce clinically relevant bias in observed effect size
- 'As-treated' analysis done with substantial departure of the intervention received from that assigned at randomisation
- · Potentially inappropriate application of simple imputation

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- · No missing outcome data
- Reasons for missing outcome data unlikely to be related to true outcome (for survival data, censoring unlikely to be introducing bias)
- Missing outcome data balanced in numbers across intervention groups, with similar reasons for missing data across groups
- For dichotomous outcome data, the proportion of missing outcomes compared with observed event risk not enough to have a clinically relevant impact on the intervention effect estimate
- For continuous outcome data, plausible effect size (difference in means or standardised difference in means) among missing outcomes not enough to have a clinically relevant impact on observed effect size
- Missing data have been imputed using appropriate methods

## Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- Insufficient reporting of attrition/exclusions to permit judgement of low or high risk (e.g. number randomised not stated, no reasons for missing data provided)
- · The study did not address this outcome

### **SELECTIVE REPORTING**

### Reporting bias due to selective outcome reporting

## Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias

Any one of the following:

- Not all of the study's pre-specified primary outcomes have been reported
- One or more primary outcomes is reported using measurements, analysis methods or subsets of the data (e.g. subscales) that were not pre-specified
- One or more reported primary outcomes were not pre-specified (unless clear justification for their reporting is provided, such as an unexpected adverse effect)
- One or more outcomes of interest in the review are reported incompletely so that they cannot be entered in a meta-analysis
- The study report fails to include results for a key outcome that would be expected to have been reported for such a study

## Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias

Any of the following:

- The study protocol is available and all of the study's pre-specified (primary and secondary) outcomes that are of interest in the review have been reported in the pre-specified way
- The study protocol is not available but it is clear that the published reports include all expected
  outcomes, including those that were pre-specified (convincing text of this nature may be uncommon)

## Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias

Insufficient information to permit judgement of low or high risk. It is likely that most studies will fall into this category.

### **OTHER BIAS**

### Bias due to problems not covered elsewhere in the table



(Continued)			
Criteria for the judgement of a high risk of bias	<ul> <li>There is at least one important risk of bias. For example, the study:</li> <li>Had a potential source of bias related to the specific study design used</li> <li>Has been claimed to have been fraudulent</li> <li>Had some other problem</li> </ul>		
Criteria for the judgement of a low risk of bias	a The study appears to be free of other sources of bias		
Criteria for the judgement of an unclear risk of bias	<ul> <li>There may be a risk of bias, but there is either:</li> <li>Insufficient information to assess whether an important risk of bias exists</li> <li>Insufficient rationale or evidence that an identified problem will introduce bias</li> </ul>		

# Appendix 3. Risk of bias assessment - review secondary outcomes Bandoni 2010

Risk of bias	Risk of bias		
Bias	Author's judgement	Support for judgement	
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Unclear	No information on method of generating random sequence	
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Unclear	No information on whether allocation was concealed prior to assignment	
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	High	Component of intervention was distribution of educational materials to workers and product labelling (Bandoni 2010, p 976)	
Employee health behaviours (diet)			
Blinding of outcome assess- ment (detection bias)	High	Worker self-report of amount of fruit and vegetables consumed in interview with researchers during visit – neither blind (Bandoni 2010, p 977).	
Employee health behaviours (diet)			
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Unclear	At baseline, 1296 individuals (intervention: 651; control: 645) were studied. Postintervention 1214 individuals (intervention: 630; control: 584).	
Employee health behaviours (diet)		Independent samples (Bandoni 2010, p 977). Greater proportion drop in participation in control group compared to intervention group. Unclear if this biased results	
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear	No mention of a priori registration of measures or publication of protocol	
Recruitment to cluster	Low	All workers in participating workplaces invited to participate (Bandoni 2010, p 976)	
Baseline imbalances	Low	After adjustment for socio-demographic characteristics (sex, education and age), the effect of the intervention on the consumption of fruits and vegetables by workers remained significant (Bandoni 2010, p 979)	



(Continued)		
Loss of clusters	Unclear	One company dropped out – final sample intervention: 15; control: 14. Analysis did not include imputation of missing data so unclear whether this biased results (Bandoni 2010, p 976)
Incorrect analysis	Unclear	No mention of adjustment for clustering within workplace clusters. Unclear what impact this may have on study findings
Compatibility with individually randomised controlled trials (herd effect)	Not applicable given secondary measure	_
Other bias	Low	_

### Biener 1999

Risk of bias		
Bias	Author's judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Unclear	No information on method of generating random sequence
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Unclear	No information on whether allocation was concealed prior to assignment
Blinding of participants and personnel (perfor- mance bias)	High	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation at all organisational levels
Employee health behav- iours (diet and tobacco use)		
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	High	Tobacco use self-reported by employees using survey; diet self-reported using food frequency questionnaire (Abrams 1994)
Employee health behaviours (diet and tobaccouse)		Methods of distribution of employee survey varied by study center, which could contribute to elevated risk of bias if differences between intervention and control groups. Florida and Brown mailed surveys to each employee in the work site, Dana-Farber mailed surveys to a random sample of employees in each work site, and MD Anderson administered questionnaires to employees at mandatory work site meetings (Sorensen 1996, p 940)
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)  Employee health behaviours (diet and tobaccouse)	Low	At baseline, the overall response rate to the employee survey was 69% (average work-site response rate, 72%; study center mean range, 61% to 89%). The overall response rate at the follow-up survey was 71% (average work-site response rate, 75%; study center mean range 68% to 86%). The interaction of the response rate subgroup (cutpoint, 65%) and the intervention group indicated no relationship between the intervention effects and the work site's response rate to the individual survey (smallest P = 0.24) (Sorensen 1996, p 943).
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Low	All pre-specified outcomes (Abrams 1994, Fig 1) reported in Sorensen 1996 and Biener 1999



(Continued)		
Recruitment to cluster	Unclear	The methods of recruitment varied by study center, which could contribute to elevated risk of bias if differences between intervention and control groups. Florida and Brown mailed surveys to each employee in the work site, Dana-Farber mailed surveys to a random sample of employees in each work site, and MD Anderson administered questionnaires to employees at mandatory work site meetings (Sorensen 1996 p 940)
Baseline imbalances	Low	Clusters matched and no significant baseline imbalances in outcomes measure for individual level data (Sorensen 1996) and demographic characteristics (Biener 1999)
Loss of clusters	Unclear	114 worksites initially recruited, 3 (2 intervention, 1 control) dropped out due to economic dislocations, leaving 111 in final sample. For pairwise analyses, three pairs were excluded, leaving a total of 108 work sites (Sorensen 1996)
Incorrect analysis	Low	Analysis adjusted for clustering effect (intraclass correlation) (Abrams 1994)
Compatibility with individually randomised controlled trials (herd effect)	Not applicable given secondary measure	_
Other bias	Low	_

### Parker 2010

Risk of bias		
Bias	Author's judgement	Support for judgement
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	High	Non-randomised trial
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	High	Non-randomised trial
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	High: (diet and physical activity)	Self-reported health behaviours
•	•	Objective biometric measures
Employee health behaviours	Low: (weight status)	
(diet, physical activity and weight status)		
Blinding of outcome assess-	High (diet and physical	Self-reported health behaviours
ment (detection bias)	activity)	Objective biometric measures
Employee health behaviours	Low (weight status)	
(diet, physical activity and weight status)		
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Low	Attrition was 54.3% and 45.1% for the
Employee health behaviours		



(Continued) (diet, physical activity and weight status)		intervention and control group respectively. To address the issue of missing data, several statistical approaches were used to adjust for the potential bias due to attrition (Goetzel 2010, p 300).
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear	Wilson 2007 indicates primary outcome BMI and development work of environmental assessment tool demonstrates intention to include in outcome assessment. No indications that any predetermined outcomes were otherwise omitted
Recruitment to cluster	Low	No difference in recruitment methods across treatment groups, with all employees at all study sites encouraged to participate in the health risk assessment (HRA) and biometric screening programmes (Goetzel 2010, p 292)
Baseline imbalances	Low	When comparing overweight and obesity prevalence between subjects at intervention and control sites, there were no significant differences between groups at baseline. Adjustment undertaken to correct for baseline imbalances in demographic characteristics using propensity score weights (Goetzel 2010, pp 292-3).
Loss of clusters	Low	No loss of clusters (Parker 2010)
Incorrect analysis	Low	Worksite's influence on outcomes was evaluated by including a site- level variable in the predictive models (adjustment for clustering) (Goetzel 2010, p 294)
Compatibility with individual- ly randomised controlled trials (herd effect)	Not applicable given secondary measure.	_
Risk of bias due to confounding factors (adequate adjustment)	Low	Adjusted for baseline imbalances in demographic characteristics using propensity score weights (Goetzel 2010, pp 292-3)

### Hannon 2012

Risk of bias		
Random sequence generation (selection bias)	Low	Block randomisation undertaken by statistician (assume computerised) (Hannon 2012, p 127)
Allocation concealment (selection bias)	Low	Block randomisation undertaken by statistician (assume computerised) (Hannon 2012, p 127)
Blinding of participants and personnel (performance bias)	High	Intervention implementation actively involved workplace staff participation.
cost estimates		
Blinding of outcome assessment (detection bias)	High	Outcomes self-reported by workplace staff (Hannon 2012, p 127)
cost estimates		



(Continued)		
Incomplete outcome data (attrition bias)	Unclear	Response rate to cost outcome questions 77% at baseline and 71% at follow-up. Unclear whether similar across groups (Han-
cost estimates		non 2012, p 129)
Selective reporting (reporting bias)	Unclear	No mention of a priori registration of measures or publication of protocol
Other bias	Low	_

### WHAT'S NEW

Date	Event	Description
5 February 2019	Amended	Typo in Plain Language Summary corrected to "The number of workplaces examined in the studies ranged from 12 to 114" (previously stated as 144). No further amendments.

### **CONTRIBUTIONS OF AUTHORS**

All review authors contributed to the conception and conduct of the research and reviewed and approved the final manuscript. LW and SY led the development of the review. DB developed the search strategy. FS, BP, TR, AG, SG and LW contributed to the selection of studies. SG, LW, MF, SY, ABC, HTVZ and FL contributed to data extraction and management. CW, MK and JJ contributed to the 'Risk of bias' assessment. RH and LW contributed to the assessment of the overall quality of evidence. LW and SG led the drafting of the manuscript. All authors provided critical comment on drafts.

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Luke Wolfenden: none known.

Sharni Goldman: none known.

Fiona Stacey: none known.

Alice Grady: none known.

Melanie Kingsland: none known.

Christopher M Williams: none known.

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### DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROTOCOL AND REVIEW

- We placed additional restrictions on the type of primary outcomes included in the review. Specifically, we did not include indirect implementation effect measures such as the 'intention' to implement a workplace policy or practice.
- 'Risk of bias' assessment was undertaken for implementation outcomes only in included trials. Additionally, we used the standard Cochrane 'Risk of bias' tool rather than the EPOC Group risk of bias criteria for the sake of consistency with other Cochrane Reviews published by the research team regarding implementation interventions for chronic disease prevention in community settings.
- We assessed the overall certainty of evidence (GRADE) and generated the 'Summary of findings' table only for RCTs, which compared an implementation strategy with control.

### INDEX TERMS

### Medical Subject Headings (MeSH)

\*Occupational Health; \*Workplace; Alcohol Drinking; Diet; Exercise; Health Promotion [\*methods]; Obesity; Randomized Controlled Trials as Topic; Risk Factors; Smoking Cessation

### MeSH check words

Adult; Humans