

# Surgery for subacromial impingement syndrome and occupational biomechanical risk factors in a 16-year prospective study among male construction workers<sup>1</sup>

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1. Supplementary material
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Table S1. Distribution of diagnostic codes (10th International Classification of Diseases), of included cases.

| Diagnose code |                       | N (%)        |
|---------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| M75.1         | rotator cuff syndrome | 2 502 (41.7) |
| M75.2         | bicipital tendinitis  | 100 (1.7)    |
| M75.3         | calcific tendinitis   | 113 (1.9)    |
| M75.4         | impingement           | 3 209 (53.4) |
| M75.5         | bursitis              | 80 (1.3)     |

Table S2. JEM mapping for all included occupational groups.

|                               | Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height <sup>a</sup> | Magnitude of upper extremity loading <sup>a</sup> | Frequency of high grip force <sup>a</sup> | Frequency of handheld tool use <sup>a</sup> | Frequency of upper extremity static work <sup>a</sup> | Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position <sup>a</sup> | Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV) <sup>b</sup> |
|-------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| Asphalt workers (1)           | 1  | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| Rock workers (2)              | 2  | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3  |
| Concrete workers (3)          | 2  | 3   | 3   | 3   | 2   | 3   | 3  |
| Wood workers (4)              | 2  | 3   | 3   | 3   | 2   | 3   | 2  |
| Brick layers (5)              | 2  | 2   | 2   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| Floor layers (6)              | 1  | 2   | 2   | 2   | 1   | 2   | 2  |
| Heavy Machinery operators (7) | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 3   | 1   | 1  |
| Crane operators (8)           | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 3   | 1   | 1  |
| Drivers (9)                   | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 3   | 1   | 1  |
| Glass workers (10)            | 2  | 3   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| Insulators (11)               | 2  | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2  |
| Refrigerator technicians (12) | 1  | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2  |
| Plumbers (13)                 | 2  | 2   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 1  |
| Painters (14)                 | 3  | 2   | 2   | 3   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| Sheet-metal workers (15)      | 2  | 3   | 3   | 3   | 2   | 3   | 2  |
| Electricians (16)             | 2  | 2   | 2   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 2  |
| Foremen (17)                  | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| White Collar workers (18)     | 1  | 1   | 1   | 1   | 2   | 1   | 1  |
| Repairers (19)                | 2  | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 2   | 3  |
| Preparatory workers (20)      | 1  | 2   | 2   | 2   | 1   | 1   | 1  |
| Roofers (21)                  | 1  | 2   | 2   | 3   | 2   | 1   | 1  |

<sup>a</sup> 1 = low, 2 = moderate, 3 = high

<sup>b</sup> 1 = none, 2 = acceptable, 3 = high

Table S3. Biomechanical risk factors and the incidence rate (IR) and relative risk (RR) for SIS surgery (n=220 295) in the study cohort of construction workers. RR are presented as crude estimates, from unadjusted models. The white-collar workers were used as reference.

|   | N       | person-years | cases | IR  | RR   | 95% CI    |
|---|---------|--------------|-------|-----|------|-----------|
| <i>Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height</i>  |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 51 075  | 658 207      | 1 165 | 177 | 1.61 | 1.31-1.97 |
| moderate  | 143 721 | 1 986 815    | 4 248 | 214 | 1.94 | 1.59-2.37 |
| high  | 18 008  | 250 392      | 492   | 196 | 1.78 | 1.44-2.21 |
| <i>Magnitude of upper extremity loading</i>                   |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 33 729  | 422 996      | 680   | 161 | 1.46 | 1.18-1.80 |
| moderate  | 95 040  | 1 317 089    | 2 525 | 192 | 1.74 | 1.42-2.13 |
| high  | 84 035  | 1 155 329    | 2 700 | 234 | 2.12 | 1.74-2.59 |
| <i>Frequency of high grip force</i>                           |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 36 742  | 462 297      | 753   | 163 | 1.48 | 1.20-1.82 |
| moderate  | 73 639  | 1 029 742    | 1956  | 190 | 1.72 | 1.41-2.11 |
| high  | 102 423 | 1 403 375    | 3196  | 228 | 2.07 | 1.69-2.52 |
| <i>Frequency of handheld tool use</i>                         |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 38 970  | 493 157      | 831   | 169 | 1.53 | 1.24-1.88 |
| moderate  | 17 364  | 236 790      | 512   | 216 | 1.96 | 1.58-2.43 |
| high  | 156 470 | 2 165 467    | 4 562 | 211 | 1.91 | 1.57-2.33 |
| <i>Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position</i> |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 72 329  | 946 628      | 1 756 | 186 | 1.68 | 1.38-2.06 |
| moderate  | 9 551   | 132 139      | 285   | 216 | 1.96 | 1.56-2.46 |
| high  | 130 924 | 1 816 647    | 3 864 | 213 | 1.93 | 1.58-2.36 |
| <i>Frequency of upper extremity static work</i>               |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 62 098  | 824 882      | 1 531 | 186 | 1.68 | 1.37-2.06 |
| moderate  | 86 243  | 1 188 882    | 2 755 | 232 | 2.10 | 1.72-2.57 |
| high  | 64 463  | 881 650      | 1 619 | 184 | 1.67 | 1.36-2.04 |
| <i>Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV)</i>                  |         |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 7 491   | 89 855       | 99    | 110 | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 90 717  | 1 194 674    | 2 252 | 189 | 1.71 | 1.40-2.09 |
| moderate  | 98 057  | 1 396 951    | 2 995 | 214 | 1.95 | 1.59-2.38 |
| high  | 24 030  | 303 789      | 658   | 217 | 1.97 | 1.59-2.43 |

N – number workers; IR – incidence rate per 100 000 person-years; RR – relative risk; CI – confidence interval

Table S4. Biomechanical exposure and the incidence rate (IR) and relative risk (RR) for SIS surgery (n=33 669) in the healthy subgroup. RR were adjusted for BMI, smoking, age, and calendar time. The lowest exposure category was used as reference.

|   | N      | person-years | cases | IR  | RR   | 95% CI    |
|---|--------|--------------|-------|-----|------|-----------|
| <i>Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height</i>  |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 8 931  | 123 922      | 123   | 99  | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 22 391 | 330 398      | 467   | 141 | 1.60 | 1.30-1.95 |
| high  | 2 347  | 34 399       | 51    | 148 | 1.78 | 1.28-2.48 |
| <i>Magnitude of upper extremity loading</i>                   |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 5 951  | 80 482       | 73    | 91  | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 14 527 | 213 539      | 268   | 126 | 1.60 | 1.23-2.08 |
| high  | 13 191 | 194 698      | 300   | 154 | 1.95 | 1.50-2.52 |
| <i>Frequency of high grip force</i>                           |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 6 452  | 87 507       | 83    | 95  | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 11 221 | 165 833      | 203   | 122 | 1.51 | 1.17-1.96 |
| high  | 15 996 | 235 379      | 355   | 151 | 1.82 | 1.42-2.32 |
| <i>Frequency of handheld tool use</i>                         |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 6 777  | 92 355       | 90    | 97  | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 2 858  | 41 792       | 52    | 124 | 1.39 | 0.98-1.96 |
| high  | 24 034 | 354 572      | 499   | 141 | 1.66 | 1.32-2.09 |
| <i>Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position</i> |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 11 591 | 162 298      | 182   | 112 | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 1 473  | 21 511       | 32    | 149 | 1.38 | 0.95-2.02 |
| high  | 20 605 | 304 910      | 427   | 140 | 1.34 | 1.13-1.60 |
| <i>Frequency of upper extremity static work</i>               |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 9 573  | 135 767      | 164   | 121 | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 14 642 | 214 428      | 318   | 148 | 1.25 | 1.03-1.50 |
| high  | 9 454  | 138 524      | 159   | 115 | 0.96 | 0.77-1.19 |
| <i>Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV)</i>                  |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| low   | 14 396 | 202 979      | 237   | 117 | 1.00 | -         |
| moderate  | 16 138 | 242 049      | 340   | 140 | 1.30 | 1.10-1.54 |
| high  | 3 135  | 43 691       | 64    | 146 | 1.25 | 0.95-1.65 |

N – number workers; IR – incidence rate per 100 000 person-years; RR – relative risk; CI – confidence interval

Table S5. Spearman correlation coefficients between pairs of biomechanical exposures.

|   | <i>Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height</i> | <i>Magnitude of upper extremity loading</i> | <i>Frequency of high grip force</i> | <i>Frequency of handheld tool use</i> | <i>Frequency of upper extremity static work</i> | <i>Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position</i> | <i>Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV)</i> |
|---|--|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <i>Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height</i>  | 1.0  | 0.5   | 0.6                                 | 0.9                                   | 0.1   | 0.4   | 0.3  |
| <i>Magnitude of upper extremity loading</i>                   |  | 1.0   | 0.9                                 | 0.7                                   | 0.0   | 0.7   | 0.7  |
| <i>Frequency of high grip force</i>                           |  |   | 1.0                                 | 0.8                                   | 0.2   | 0.8   | 0.6  |
| <i>Frequency of handheld tool use</i>                         |  |   |                                     | 1.0                                   | 0.3   | 0.7   | 0.5  |
| <i>Frequency of upper extremity static work</i>               |  |   |                                     |                                       | 1.0   | 0.6   | 0.3  |
| <i>Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position</i> |  |   |                                     |                                       |   | 1.0   | 0.8  |
| <i>Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV)</i>                  |  |   |                                     |                                       |   |   | 1.0  |

Table S6. Biomechanical exposure and the incidence rate (IR) and relative risk (RR) for SIS surgery in workers still employed in construction trade at least one years within the 5-year period prior to follow up (N=125 123). RR were adjusted for BMI, smoking, age, and calendar time of surgery. The white-collar workers were used as reference.

|   | N      | person-years | cases | IR  | RR   | 95% CI    |
|---|--------|--------------|-------|-----|------|-----------|
| <i>Frequency of working with hands above shoulder height</i>  |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 27 863 | 376 073      | 670   | 178 | 2.16 | 1.49-3.13 |
| moderate  | 83 310 | 1 198 042    | 2 710 | 226 | 3.00 | 2.08-4.34 |
| high  | 11 241 | 162 713      | 333   | 205 | 2.75 | 1.88-4.02 |
| <i>Magnitude of upper extremity loading</i>                   |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 17 809 | 233 951      | 376   | 161 | 1.89 | 1.30-2.76 |
| moderate  | 56 663 | 815 003      | 1 619 | 199 | 2.66 | 1.84-3.85 |
| high  | 47 942 | 687 874      | 1718  | 250 | 3.29 | 2.28-4.76 |
| <i>Frequency of high grip force</i>                           |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 19 715 | 259 959      | 427   | 164 | 1.94 | 1.33-2.82 |
| moderate  | 43 748 | 633 450      | 1 246 | 197 | 2.67 | 1.84-3.86 |
| high  | 58 951 | 843 419      | 2 040 | 242 | 3.18 | 2.21-4.60 |
| <i>Frequency of handheld tool use</i>                         |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 20 932 | 277 022      | 475   | 172 | 2.03 | 1.40-2.95 |
| moderate  | 9 558  | 135 955      | 285   | 210 | 2.70 | 1.84-3.96 |
| high  | 91 924 | 1 323 851    | 2 953 | 223 | 2.98 | 2.07-4.30 |
| <i>Frequency of using a handheld tool in a fixed position</i> |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 41 087 | 564 189      | 1 086 | 193 | 2.40 | 1.66-3.48 |
| moderate  | 5 259  | 75 418       | 159   | 211 | 2.74 | 1.84-4.07 |
| high  | 76 068 | 1 097 221    | 2 468 | 225 | 2.98 | 2.06-4.29 |
| <i>Frequency of upper extremity static work</i>               |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 36 495 | 506 178      | 973   | 192 | 2.46 | 1.70-3.56 |
| moderate  | 49 121 | 705 924      | 1 739 | 246 | 3.22 | 2.23-4.65 |
| high  | 36 798 | 524 726      | 1 001 | 191 | 2.47 | 1.71-3.58 |
| <i>Magnitude of hand-arm vibration (HAV)</i>                  |        |              |       |     |      |           |
| reference   | 2 709  | 34 213       | 30    | 88  | 1.00 | -         |
| low   | 52 096 | 719 734      | 1 408 | 196 | 2.46 | 1.70-3.55 |
| moderate  | 58 622 | 858 755      | 1 925 | 224 | 3.01 | 2.08-4.34 |
| high  | 11 696 | 158 339      | 380   | 240 | 2.98 | 2.04-4.36 |

N – number workers; IR – incidence rate per 100 000 person-years; RR – relative risk; CI – confidence interval