

Online table 1: Summary of general characteristics of included studies

Characteristic	N(range) (%)
Total number of studies	45
Study size (range)	188,281(50-148,917)
Risk of Participation Bias scores	
<i>Low risk of bias</i>	25 (55.5%)
<i>Moderate risk of bias</i>	17 (37.7%)
<i>High risk of bias</i>	3 (6.8%)
Study setting or sampling frame, n (%)	
<i>Workplace</i>	10 (22%)
<i>Healthcare</i>	18 (40%)
<i>Insurance database</i>	14 (31%)
<i>Population study</i>	3 (7%)
% male (range)*	31% - 97%
Studies using self-reported data on work absence, n (%)	22 (49%)
Geographic region, n (%)	
<i>North America</i>	19 (42%)
<i>Europe</i>	21 (47%)
<i>Other</i>	5 (11%)

*From 44 studies. One study [26] only included females