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THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE WORKING POPULATION IN BELGIUM

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STATEMENT SLIDE

I have no conflicts of interest to disclose
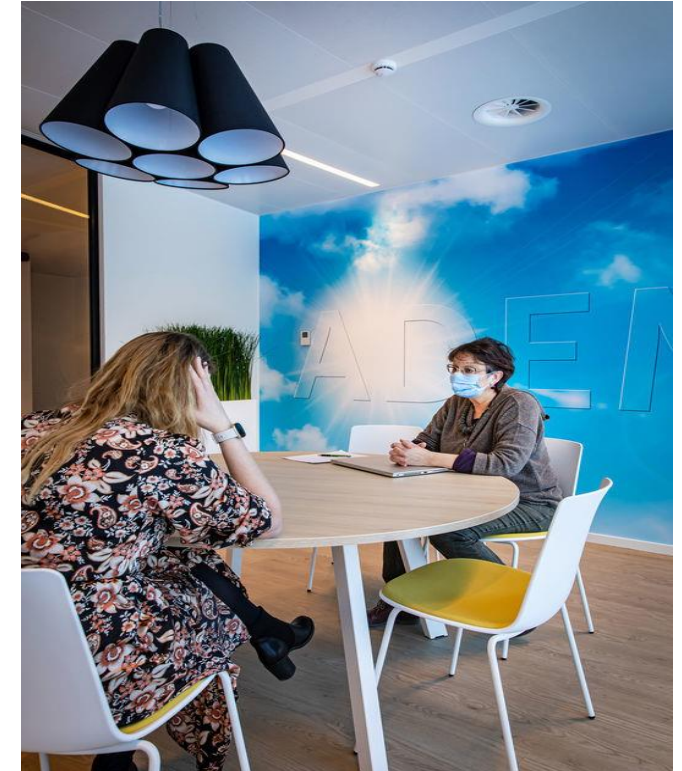
Background and objectives

Background

Since 13 March 2020: Several restrictive measures have been put in place by the Belgian National Security Council to counter the Covid-19 pandemic

Those measures have an important impact on the well-being of workers

Objectives

We wanted to study the impact by questioning

- State of mind

- Level of tension or unrest

- Feelings of fatigue

Methods

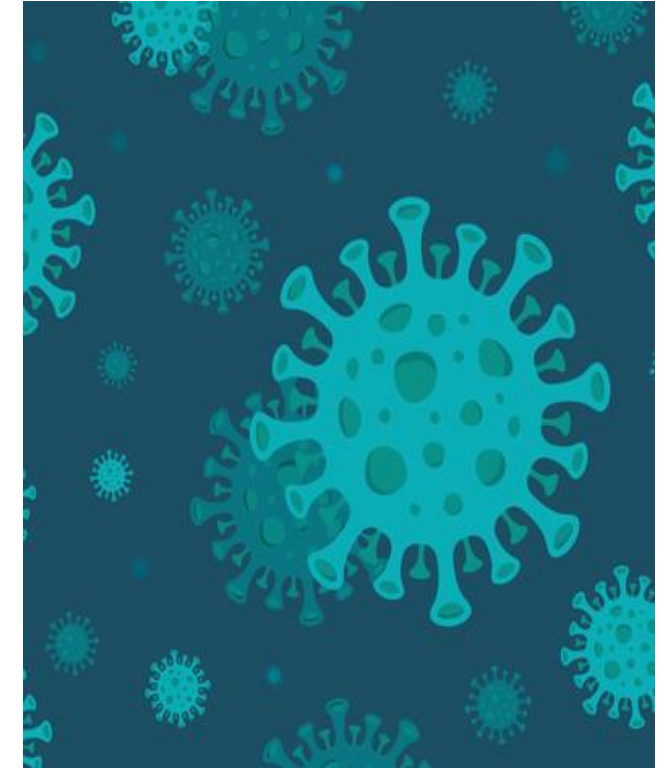| Questionnaires	Scores	Analyses
Questionnaires during periodical medical exams carried out by occupational nurses of the largest Occupational Health Service in Belgium IDEWE	Reporting of SUD score (Subjective Units of Distress: from 1 to 10) • Traumatogenic stress • Depressogenic stress • Exhaustogenic stress Score of >= 7: Red Flag	Descriptives on the obtained SUD scores Logistic regression for relation between outcome (=Red Flags) and sociodemographic factors (gender, age and sector of employment)

Results: descriptives

The study population

4611 employees (79.4% female)

Mean age 43.2y (range: 19y-71y – SD 11.8)

Sector of employment
    Health Sector (90.7%)
    Government (4.8%)
    Services (2.3%)
    Education (2.2%)

The Red Flags

Traumatogenic stress	**3.1% (2.2% in males – 3.3% in females)**
Depressogenic stress	**1.0% (0.4% in males – 1.1% in females)**
Exhaustogenic stress	**4.2% (1.8% in males – 4.9% in females)**

Results: logistic regression

Traumatogenic stress

Variables	B estimate	Standard error	OR	P value
Women	0.370	0.240	1.448	0.122
Age	0.025	0.008	1.025	0.001

Depressogenic stress

Variables	B estimate	Standard error	OR	P value
Women	0.970	0.525	2.638	0.065
Age	0.018	0.013	1.018	0.162

Exhaustogenic stress

Variables	B estimate	Standard error	OR	P value
Women	1.011	0.257	2.749	0.000
Age	0.023	0.006	1.023	0.000

Conclusions

Covid-19 has an important impact on mental health of workers

Especially women and older employees are at higher risk for problematic stress levels

The results of our study confirm the findings of the Covid-19-Gezondheidsenquêtes of Sciensano in Belgium