



Journal of Health and Medical Sciences

Smith, Andrew P. (2019), Alcohol, Smoking, Wellbeing and Health and Safety of Workers. In: *Journal of Health and Medical Sciences*, Vol.2, No.4, 429-448.

ISSN 2622-7258

DOI: 10.31014/aior.1994.02.04.69

The online version of this article can be found at:
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Published by:
The Asian Institute of Research

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Alcohol, Smoking, Wellbeing and Health and Safety of Workers

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Abstract

Health effects of smoking and alcohol consumption are well-documented, but further research about associations with the wellbeing of workers is required. The WHO stated that there is more to health than the absence of disease and such an approach leads to an increased emphasis on wellbeing and quality of life. The approach to wellbeing adopted here is to consider it in a holistic way which covers health, functionality and affective states. The present study involved a survey of 1392 public sector workers from South Wales, UK (74.3% female; mean age: 43.3 years, range 17-72 years). 39.3% of the sample were smokers (mean number of cigarettes a day = 11.28, range 1-40). The average weekly alcohol consumption was 9.2 units with a range of 0-100. 32.3 % consumed more than the recommended safe level (> 14 units), and 18.4% were non-consumers. Multi-variate analyses, adjusting for established predictors of the outcomes (demographics, job characteristics and psychosocial factors) showed that smokers reported more job satisfaction, had fewer injuries but had more health problems (mostly respiratory). The interaction between smoking and level of alcohol consumption was not significant. Alcohol consumption showed two different profiles of effects. Higher alcohol intake was associated with more risk-taking and cognitive failures at work. In contrast, consumption of alcohol below the recommended safe threshold (14 units/week) was associated with higher job satisfaction, fewer physical symptoms and reduced fatigue and depression. Further research using longitudinal or intervention designs is now required to elucidate underlying mechanisms and practical implications of smoking and drinking alcohol.

Keywords: Smoking, Alcohol, Workers, Health, Safety, Wellbeing

Introduction

The harm caused by the consumption of alcohol is a high priority public health problem (Bell & Britton, 2014; WHO, 2012). The effects of smoking on health have also received considerable attention (Department of Health, 2014). However, research is required to increase our knowledge about the effects of alcohol and smoking on wellbeing, and the objective of the present study was to examine whether smoking and alcohol consumption were associated with wellbeing and health and safety outcomes when the established predictor variables were co-varied.

Approximately 20% of the UK population are smokers (HSCIC, 2013), with the highest number of smokers being in the 20-24 year age group (HSCIC, 2012). The prevalence of smoking has fallen from about 40% in the 1980s to about 20% (HSCIC, 2013). Those who smoke often report lower satisfaction with their jobs, financial

conditions, non-working activities, friendships, family life, health and physical condition than those who do not smoke (Oshio & Kobaayshi, 2009). Non-smoking males have been found to have higher levels of wellbeing than men who smoke, and women who never smoked had higher levels of wellbeing than women who had smoked in the past (Chanfreau et al., 2013). Smokers often report increased levels of anxiety (Annual Population Survey, 2012), and there is some evidence of a causal link between the two in that quitting smoking can reduce anxiety, with those who have clinically significant levels of anxiety and those who smoke to reduce their stress showing the largest effect (McDermott et al., 2013). Smoking is highly correlated with poor mental health in general, with about 30% of those with mental health problems being smokers (McManus et al., 2010). Some of these associations may reflect reverse causality, with mental health influencing smoking rather than the other way around. There are many correlated attributes of smoking, such as employment status, social class, salary, and smoking status of family and friends (Twigg et al., 2000). A number of these variables are also associated with people's wellbeing levels, and they must be adjusted for when examining associations between smoking and wellbeing.

Findings from the General Lifestyle Survey (Office for National Statistics, 2013) showed that the number of adults exceeding 3 or 4 units of alcohol on at least one day a week was higher for men (34%) than for women (28%). This gender difference was also observed for numbers drinking above recommended safe levels. A person's drinking habits often reflect those of their friends and family (Rosenquist et al. 2010). Alcohol is an established risk factor for depression, and some research has shown that up to 10% of male depression is related to alcohol consumption (Jane-Llopis & Matysina, 2006). However, moderate levels of alcohol consumption are associated with lower susceptibility to disease (Cohen et al., 1993), better cognition, higher levels of subjective wellbeing and fewer depressive symptoms, when compared with total non-consumption (Lang et al., 2006). Indeed, moderate consumption is associated with greater sociability and can be associated with higher levels of wellbeing.

A holistic approach to wellbeing was adopted here (Smith, 2011a, 2011b, Smith & Wadsworth, 2011, and Williams & Smith, 2012). This approach, first described in detail by Smith (2005a), developed from the realisation that there is more to being healthy than being free from disease. Research on smoking and alcohol consumption has often investigated associations with different types of disease, but there have also been studies relating these health-related behaviours to both physical and mental functions. Such research often uses different conceptual approaches. For example, "well-being" is sometimes replaced by the term "quality of life" or by "being able to function well" or "reporting a positive mood state". The relationship between alcohol consumption and both negative and positive mental health has also been examined, often indicating subtle changes in mood rather than the presence of clinical conditions. This holistic approach can be applied across the life-span with different functions receiving attention at certain ages (e.g. education outcomes in adolescence; performance at work in adults; and cognitive decline in the elderly).

A problem with many of the previous studies in this area is that they have not controlled for the effects of correlated attributes of both the wellbeing outcomes and health-related behaviours. Two recent studies have considered wellbeing as a process and examined the effects of smoking and alcohol consumption on the wellbeing and attainment of students (Smith, 2019a, 2019b). In these studies, established predictors of wellbeing and attainment were statistically controlled. Smith (2019a) examined associations between smoking, well-being and academic attainment. Univariate analyses showed that smoking was associated with lower attainment and greater negative wellbeing (stress, anxiety and depression). When established predictors of well-being were included in the analyses, smoking still had a significant effect on attainment but not negative well-being. Another piece of research, using this approach, then considered smoking and alcohol consumption (Smith, 2019b). Three studies examined associations between alcohol consumption, smoking, academic attainment and wellbeing of university students. The first study examined associations with the frequency of consuming alcohol, consumers versus non-consumers, alcohol units per week, and drinking more than the recommended safe level. When established predictors of attainment and wellbeing were included in the analyses, smoking was still associated with academic attainment but not with wellbeing. There were no significant effects of the alcohol frequency or amount variables, and no significant interactions between alcohol group and smoking. Non-consumers of alcohol reported greater work efficiency but higher negative outcomes. Consumption of more alcohol than the recommended safe limit was associated with lower positive well-being, lower course stress, and lower work efficiency. A smaller study examined associations with binge drinking. There was only one significant effect, with those who never engaged in binge drinking reporting greater work efficiency than the infrequent binge drinkers, who in turn reported greater

work efficiency than the regular binge drinkers. A third study examined associations between frequency of hangovers, attainment and wellbeing. Again, the only significant effect was on work efficiency, with those who never had a hangover being more efficient than those who sometimes had a hangover who were more efficient than those who regularly had a hangover.

The chronic effects of smoking or consuming alcohol may be difficult to detect in student samples because they have only carried out these behaviours for a relatively short time. The present study involved a survey of a sample of workers who had been smoking and drinking alcohol for a longer time. The outcomes studied here were also different from those used in the student samples. Health outcomes were recorded, and it was predicted that higher consumption of alcohol and smoking would be associated with poorer health. Safety outcomes (accidents, injuries and errors) were also reported, and the literature suggests that alcohol consumption may be a risk factor for reduced safety. Mental health problems (stress, fatigue, anxiety and depression) were also recorded, as were job satisfaction and enjoyment. Correlated attributes of smoking, alcohol consumption and the outcomes were also measured and used as covariates in the multivariate analyses. These covariates covered demographics, job characteristics and personality. The sample were recruited from the staff of a local county council in South Wales and included both white-collar and blue-collar workers. Wadsworth et al. (2004) carried out a survey of a community-based population sample (N > 7000) in South Wales and found that smoking was associated with anxiety, depression, being female, lower educational qualifications and income, being aged over 25 years and being unemployed. Heavy alcohol consumption was associated with being depressed, experiencing sleeping problems, risk-taking, being male, higher income, not being married, and being under 25 years old. These variables and those related to wellbeing were examined in the present research in a sample from the same geographical region as those studied by Wadsworth et al. (2004).

2. Method

This study involved a postal survey of the well-being and health and safety of public sector workers. It was carried out with the approval of the ethics committee, School of Psychology, Cardiff University, and the informed consent of the volunteers.

2.1 Participants

The participants were 1392 public sector employees from South Wales, UK (74.3% female; mean age: 43.3 years, range 17-72 years). 15.5% were single, 74.1% married/cohabiting, 2.3% separated, 6.0% divorced and 2.1% widowed. 25.7% were educated to degree level. 76.1% were full-time staff and 23.9% part-time. 13.6% earned < £10K, 37% £10-20K, 27.9% £20-30K and 21.4% > £30K per annum.

2.2 Smoking and Alcohol Consumption

39.3% of the sample were smokers (mean number of cigarettes a day = 11.28, range 1-40). The average weekly alcohol consumption was 9.2 units with a range of 0-100. 32.3 % consumed more than the recommended safe level (> 14 units), and 18.4% were non-consumers.

2.2 Measures

The survey consisted of sections measuring demographics and personality (Wadsworth et al., 2004), job characteristics (the HSE Management Standards - Mackay et al., 2004), job satisfaction (Warr, Cook & Wall, 1979), occupational stress (Smith et al., 2000), accidents, injuries and cognitive failures (Wadsworth et al., 2003), illness in the last year and symptoms in the last 14 days (Smith et al., 2000), risk-taking (Smith, 2016), fatigue (Ray et al., 1992), anxiety and depression (Zigmond & Snaith, 1983). Smoking and units of alcohol consumption per week were also recorded (Smith et al., 2000). The actual questions are shown in the Appendix.

2.3 Statistical analysis

Multivariate ANOVA (MANOVA) analyses examined the associations between smoking, alcohol consumption and the wellbeing and health and safety outcomes while controlling for the established predictors (demographics, personality, and job characteristics). Smoking was entered as a categorical variable. Alcohol consumption was coded as three groups: non-consumers, consumers below the recommended threshold (14 units a week) and those consuming more than the recommended limit.

3. Results

Smoking:

The MANOVA revealed a significant overall effect of smoking status (Wilks' Lambda = 4.39, $p < 0.00$, partial eta squared = 0.08). Smokers rated their job as significantly more enjoyable, reported fewer injuries outside of work but had more symptoms (mainly respiratory) in the last 14 days. These effects are shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Significant effects of smoking status (scores are the means (sds); higher scores = greater job enjoyment, more symptoms in last 14 days and more minor injuries).

	Smokers	Non-Smokers	p value
Job enjoyment	4.00 (1.04)	3.69 (1.07)	$p < 0.001$
Total symptoms	5.19 (3.95)	3.64 (3.25)	$p < 0.001$
Minor injuries	1.86 (0.92)	2.12 (0.98)	$p < 0.005$

The interactions between smoking and level of alcohol consumption were not significant. However, alcohol consumption status had a significant overall effect (Wilks' Lambda = 1.97, $p < 0.001$, partial eta squared = 0.04) and was significantly associated with a number of specific outcomes. Two different profiles of effect were observed. These are shown in Table 2. First, there was a linear dose-response relationship between alcohol consumption and risk-taking and cognitive failures. Secondly, those consuming alcohol at a safe level had the lowest scores for physical symptoms, fatigue and depression. Non-consumers had lower scores for these outcomes than those consuming above the recommended safe level. Finally, in terms of job satisfaction, those consuming alcohol below the safe limit had the highest job satisfaction, followed by the non-consumers, and those consuming above the recommended limit had the lowest job satisfaction.

Table 2: Significant effects of alcohol groups (scores are the means (sds); higher scores = greater job satisfaction, more frequent cognitive failures, more risk-taking, more symptoms in last 14 days, higher depression and fatigue scores).

	Non-consumers	Below 14 units a week	Above 14 units a week	p value
Job satisfaction	134.00 (25.3)	135.86 (23.40)	124.86 (24.05)	$p < 0.001$
Cognitive Failures	2.61 (1.07)	2.67 (0.97)	2.97 (1.00)	$p < 0.01$
Risk taking	1.80 (0.87)	2.05 (0.87)	2.34 (0.87)	$p < 0.005$
Total symptoms	4.45 (3.66)	4.09 (3.58)	4.94 (3.62)	$p < 0.05$
Fatigue	32.78 (15.96)	32.53 (16.51)	36.86 (15.69)	$p < 0.001$
Depression	4.72 (3.77)	4.68 (3.62)	6.09 (4.32)	$p < 0.001$

4. Discussion

The results showed that after adjusting for correlated attributes of smoking and alcohol consumption, and the established predictors of the health, safety and wellbeing outcomes, relatively few effects of smoking and alcohol were significant. Furthermore, there were no significant interactions between alcohol consumption patterns and smoking. Smoking was associated with more acute physical symptoms which reflects effects on the respiratory tract. Two positive effects of smoking were observed. The first was that smokers reported more job enjoyment. This may reflect the social aspect of smoking at work, where groups of smokers may have greater social interaction

while having a cigarette. Finally, smoking was associated with fewer minor injuries, which could be due to a beneficial effect of smoking on attention (see Wesnes & Parrott, 1992).

Alcohol consumption was associated with more significant effects and two distinct profiles of effects were observed. The first, seen in the safety and performance efficiency measures (risk-taking and cognitive failures) showed a dose-response, with more alcohol being associated with more negative outcomes. Job satisfaction and physical and mental health measures showed a different profile, with high alcohol consumption revealing the most negative effects but moderate consumption, below the recommended threshold, was associated with better health and wellbeing than the non-consumer groups. This J-shaped curve has been reported before and it has been speculated that the benefits of moderate alcohol consumption reflect anti-inflammatory effects (Cohen et al., 1993).

A limitation of the current research was that it was cross-sectional which makes attribution of causality difficult. Further longitudinal studies, preferably with appropriate interventions, are now required. Another limitation was that the present study does not inform on the underlying mechanisms linking smoking and alcohol consumption with various outcomes. Future research should use a multi-variate longitudinal approach to help identify underlying mechanisms and assess the benefits of education about alcohol consumption and smoking cessation. Smoking and alcohol consumption are often associated with the use and misuse of other substances (e.g. recreational drugs – Wadsworth et al., 2004). Future research should adjust for drug use and also look at the combined effects of co-usage of tobacco, alcohol and illegal drugs.

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Appendix

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Well-Being Survey



**The Centre for Occupational & Health Psychology, Cardiff University.
63 Park Place, Cardiff. CF10 3AS.**

YOU AND YOUR JOB

We would like to ask you some questions about you and work.

1.1 What is your job title? _____

1.2 What grade are you currently working at?

1.3 Is the job full-time or part-time? (Full-time: 30 hours per week or more, Part time: up to 30 hours per week). Please tick ONE box.

Full-time ☐₁

Part-time ☐₂

1.4 Is your job permanent, temporary/casual, or fixed contract? Please tick ONE box.

Permanent ☐₁

Temporary/casual ☐₂

Fixed contract ☐₃

1.5 Which one of the following best describes your current position at work? Please tick one box.

Manager (25+ employees*) ☐₁

Manager (less than 25 employees*) ☐₂

Supervisor ☐₃

Employee ☐₄

(* Total number in Company, not just those of whom you are in charge).

1.6 In this job, how many hours per week do you work on average? _____

1.7 What is your work pattern?

Fixed hours ☐₁

Flexi-time ☐₂

Shift work ☐₃

SHIFTWORKERS ONLY

1.8 What is the length of your current shift?

6hrs ☐₁

8hrs ☐₂

12hrs ☐₃

1.9 Thinking about the past year, have you suffered from any illness that you think was caused, or made worse by work?

Yes ☐₁ No ☐₂

If yes, please specify:

1.10 In general, how stressful do you find your job?

Not at all stressful	Mildly stressful	Moderately stressful	Very stressful	Extremely stressful
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

1.11 In general, how much do you enjoy your job?

Really don't enjoy my job				Really do enjoy my job
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

1.12 Have you been subjected to bullying in the workplace in the last 12 months?

No	Seldom	Now and then	About once a week	More than once a week
<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

1.13 INSTRUCTIONS: The questions in this scale ask you about your feelings and thoughts at work during the last month. In each case, please indicate by circling a number how often you felt or thought a certain way.

a. In the last month, how often have you been upset because of something that happened unexpectedly?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

b. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were unable to control the important things in your life?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

c. In the last month, how often have you felt nervous and 'stressed'?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

d. In the last month, how often have you dealt successfully with day to day problems and annoyances?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

e. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were effectively coping with important changes that were occurring in your life?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

f. In the last month, how often have you felt confident about your ability to handle your personal problems?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

g. In the last month, how often have you felt that things were going your way?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

h. In the last month, how often have you felt that you could not cope with all the things that you had to do?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

i. In the last month, how often have you been able to control irritations in your life?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

j. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were on top of things?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

k. In the last month, how often have you been angered because of things that were outside your control?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

l. In the last month, how often have you found yourself thinking about things that you have to accomplish?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

m. In the last month, how often have you been able to control the way you spend your time?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

n. In the last month, how often have you felt difficulties were piling up so high that you could not overcome them?

1 = never 2 = almost never 3 = sometimes 4 = fairly often 5 = very often

1.14 How tired would you say you felt when you got up this morning?

(place a cross on the line which best corresponds to how you felt first thing this morning) e.g.

Not at all tired -----X----- Extremely tired

Not at all tired ----- Extremely tired

1.15 It is recognised that working conditions affect worker well-being. Your responses to the questions below will help to determine your working conditions now. It is important that your responses reflect your work in the last six months.

	Never	Seldom	Sometimes	Often	Always
I am clear what is expected of me at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I can decide when to take a break	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Different groups at work demand things from me that are hard to combine	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I know how to go about getting my job done	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am subject to personal harassment in the form of unkind words or behaviour	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have unachievable deadlines	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
If work gets difficult, my colleagues will help me	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am given supportive feedback on the work I do	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have to work very intensively	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have a say in my own work speed	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am clear what my duties and responsibilities are	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have to neglect some tasks because I have too much to do	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am clear about the goals and objectives for my department	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
There is friction or anger between colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have a choice in deciding how I do my work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am unable to take sufficient breaks	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I understand how my work fits into the overall aim of the organisation	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am pressured to work long hours	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have a choice in deciding what I do at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have to work very fast	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am subject to bullying at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have unrealistic time pressures	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

I can rely on my line manager to help me out with a work problem	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly agree
I get the help and support I need from colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have some say over the way I work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I have sufficient opportunities to question managers about change at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I receive the respect at work I deserve from my colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Staff are always consulted about change at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I can talk to my line manager about something that has upset or annoyed me at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
My working time can be flexible	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
My colleagues are willing to listen to my work-related problems	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
When changes are made at work, I am clear how they will work out in practice	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
I am supported through emotionally demanding work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Relationships at work are strained	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
My line manager encourages me at work	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

1.16 Please read each item and then tick the box next to the reply that comes closest to how you have been feeling in the past week. Try to give your first reaction. This will probably be more accurate than spending a long time thinking about an answer. Please answer all questions, and tick only ONE BOX per question.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>a) I feel tense or wound up</p> <p>Most of the time <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>A lot of the time <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>From time to time, occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>b) I feel as if I am slowed down</p> <p>Nearly all the time <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Very often <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>c) I still enjoy the things I used to enjoy</p> <p>Definitely as much <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Not quite so much <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Only a little <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Hardly at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>d) I get a sort of frightened feeling like "butterflies" in the stomach</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Quite often <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Very often <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>e) I get a sort of frightened feeling as if something awful is about to happen</p> <p>Very definitely and quite badly <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Yes, but not too badly <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>A little, but it doesn't worry me <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>f) I have lost interest in my appearance</p> <p>Definitely <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>I don't take as much care as I should <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>I may not take quite as much care <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>I take just as much care as ever <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>g) I can laugh and see the funny side of things</p> <p>As much as I always could <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Not quite so much now <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Definitely not so much now <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>h) I feel restless as if I have to be on the move</p> <p>Very much indeed <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Quite a lot <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Not very much <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>i) Worrying thoughts go through my head</p> <p>A great deal of the time <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>A lot of the time <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>From time to time but not too often <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Only occasionally <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>j) I look forward with enjoyment to things</p> <p>As much as I ever did <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Rather less than I used to <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Definitely less than I used to <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Hardly at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>k) I feel cheerful</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Not often <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Most of the time <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>l) I get sudden feelings of panic</p> <p>Very often indeed <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Quite often <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Not very often <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |
| <p>m) I can sit at ease and feel relaxed</p> <p>Definitely <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Usually <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Not often <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Not at all <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> | <p>n) I can enjoy a good book or radio or TV programme</p> <p>Often <input type="checkbox"/>₁</p> <p>Sometimes <input type="checkbox"/>₂</p> <p>Not often <input type="checkbox"/>₃</p> <p>Very seldom <input type="checkbox"/>₄</p> |

1.17 Age: yrs

1.18 Sex: ☐₁ ☐₂
M F

1.19 Current Status: (Please tick one box only)

Single (never married)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Separated	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Living with partner	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	Divorced	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
Married	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	Widowed	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆

1.20 Education Completed: (Please choose all that apply)

No academic qualifications	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	City & Guilds / National Diploma	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
GCSE/ 'O' Level	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	BA / BSc	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅
AS Level/SCE Higher/Matriculation	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	Higher degree / Professional qualification	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆

1.21 How would you describe yourself?

White	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂
Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	Black neither Caribbean or African	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆
Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇	Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> ₈
		None of these (Please specify)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₉

1.22 What is the total current yearly amount you receive from your wage, pension, benefit allowance or annual salary (before tax is deducted)? Please indicate one category.

less than £2,500	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	£2,500-£4,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	£5,000-£9,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃
£10,000-£15,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	£16,000-£19,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	£20,000-£24,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆
£25,000-£29,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇	£30,000-39,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₈	£40,000-49,999	<input type="checkbox"/> ₉
£50,000 or more	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₀				

2.1 Now we would like to ask you about where you worked in the last 2 months. For each question please tick ONE answer that best describes your work.

		Often	Some- times	Seldom	Never/ almost never
a)	Did you work at night?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
b)	Did you do shift work?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
c)	Did you have to work long or unsociable hours?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
d)	Did you have to be “on call” for work?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
e)	Did you have unpredictable working hours?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
f)	Did your job ever expose you to breathing fumes, dusts or other potentially harmful substances?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
g)	Did your job ever require you to handle or touch potentially harmful substances or materials?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
h)	Did you ever have work tasks that leave you with a ringing in your ears or a temporary feeling of deafness?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄
i)	Did you work in an environment where the level of background noise disturbs your concentration?	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

3.1 Have you ever been told by the doctor that you have, or have had any of the following? Please tick Yes or No for EACH of the categories in the following list.

	Yes	No
Angina	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
High cholesterol level	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diabetes	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stroke	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heart attack (coronary thrombosis, myocardial infarction)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/>
High blood pressure	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nervous trouble or depression	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> ₈	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emphysema	<input type="checkbox"/> ₉	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bronchitis	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₀	<input type="checkbox"/>
Breast cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other cancer	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₃	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.2 In the last 12 months have you suffered from any of the following health problems?

Please tick Yes or No for EACH of the categories in the following list.

	Yes	No
Bronchitis	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arthritis or rheumatism	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sciatica, lumbago or recurring backache	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/>
Persistent skin trouble (e.g. eczema)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asthma	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hay fever	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recurring stomach trouble or indigestion	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇	<input type="checkbox"/>
Being constipated all or most of the time	<input type="checkbox"/> ₈	<input type="checkbox"/>
Piles	<input type="checkbox"/> ₉	<input type="checkbox"/>
Persistent foot trouble (e.g. bunions, in-growing toenails)	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₀	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trouble with varicose veins	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nervous trouble or persistent depression	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Persistent trouble with your gums or mouth	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₃	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problems sleeping	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₄	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____		

3.3 Have you had any of the following symptoms in the last 14 days?

	Yes	No
A cough, catarrh or phlegm	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
Diarrhoea	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heartburn, wind or indigestion	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shortness of breath	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dizziness or giddiness	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earache or discomfort in the ears	<input type="checkbox"/> ₆	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swollen ankles	<input type="checkbox"/> ₇	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nervy, tense or depressed	<input type="checkbox"/> ₈	<input type="checkbox"/>
A cold or flu	<input type="checkbox"/> ₉	<input type="checkbox"/>
A sore throat	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₀	<input type="checkbox"/>
Difficulty sleeping	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₁	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pains in the chest	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₂	<input type="checkbox"/>
Backache or pains in the back	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₃	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nausea or vomiting	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₄	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling tired for no apparent reason	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₅	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rashes, itches or other skin trouble	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₆	<input type="checkbox"/>
Blocked or runny nose	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₇	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headache	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₈	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wheeziness	<input type="checkbox"/> ₁₉	<input type="checkbox"/>
Toothache or trouble with gums	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂₀	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other _____	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂₁	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.4 In the last year have you taken any of the following medicines prescribed by a doctor?

Pain killers	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> ₁	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Sleeping pills	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> ₂	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Anti-depressants	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> ₃	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Medicines for stress or anxiety	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> ₄	No <input type="checkbox"/>

3.5 Over the past 12 months, how would you say your health in general has been?

Very good	Good	Fair	Bad	Very bad
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

3.6 How do you find life in general?

Not at all stressful	Mildly stressful	Moderately stressful	Very stressful	Extremely stressful
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

4.1 Thinking about the last 12 months, have you had any accidents WHILE YOU WERE WORKING that required medical attention from someone else (e.g. a first aider, GP, nurse or hospital doctor)?

None	1	2 or more
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

4.2 How many accidents requiring medical attention have you had OUTSIDE work in the last 12 months?

None	1	2 or more
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃

4.3 In the last 12 months how frequently have you had minor injuries that did not require medical attention?

a) at work

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

b) outside of work

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

4.4 How frequently do you find that you have problems of memory (e.g. forgetting where you put things), attention (e.g. failures of concentration), or action (e.g. doing the wrong thing)?

a) at work

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

b) outside of work

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> ₁	<input type="checkbox"/> ₂	<input type="checkbox"/> ₃	<input type="checkbox"/> ₄	<input type="checkbox"/> ₅

4.5 How frequently do you take risks?

a) at work

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5

a) outside work

b)

Not at all	Rarely	Occasionally	Quite frequently	Very frequently
<input type="checkbox"/> _1	<input type="checkbox"/> _2	<input type="checkbox"/> _3	<input type="checkbox"/> _4	<input type="checkbox"/> _5

LIFESTYLE

In this section, we are interested in finding out about how you live your life. In particular, we are interested in how much (or little) you drink or smoke.

5.1 Do you smoke cigarettes now (i.e. NOT cigars/pipe)?

Yes ☐₁

No ☐₂

5.2 How many cigarettes do you smoke per day?

Manufactured

Handrolled

5.3 On average how often do you drink during the week, that is weekdays. Please tick ONE BOX only.

Never

1 - 2 Days

3 Days

4 Days

☐₁

☐₂

☐₃

☐₄

5.4 How many units do you drink during an average week? _____ units

(1 unit = half a pint of beer/1 small glass of wine/1 pub measure of spirits)

5.5 On average how often do you drink at the weekends. Please tick ONE BOX only.

Never

1 - 2 Days

All 3 Days

☐₁

☐₂

☐₃

5.6 How many units do you drink on an average weekend? _____ units