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# RESEARCH REVIEW

Keeping you up to date with the latest peer-reviewed research on workforce health and productivity

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## **How Does Severity of Osteoarthritis Pain Impact Patients in the US?**

Adults with moderate-to-severe osteoarthritis pain were more likely to be unemployed, on long-term disability, and have increased absenteeism and presenteeism compared to adults with mild osteoarthritis pain.

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## **Obesity-Related Productivity Loss Totals \$27 Billion**

Combining US national data from 2001 to 2016, researchers found that obesity increases absenteeism by three workdays and costs about \$542 in productivity loss per day per employee. The total annual productivity cost was \$27 billion in 2016.

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## **Workplace COVID-19 Benchmarks Provide Evidence Base for Decision-Making During Pandemic**

A large workplace of over 5,700 employees collected benchmarks on COVID-19, ranging from variant surveillance and contact tracing to return to work procedures, for more than nine months to indicate how workplace operations can be supported during the pandemic.

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## **Sickness Absence and Presenteeism Serves as Early Warning Signs for Disability in Healthcare Workers**

A study of 9,000 Danish female healthcare workers over a 11- year span found that 12% received disability pension, in which presenteeism and sickness absence at baseline increased risk of retiring early due to poor health.

## **Majority of Implemented Workplace Programs Help Increase Sleep in Shift Employees**

A review of workplace intervention studies on a workforce of predominantly shift workers found that more than half of the interventions, especially yoga and mindfulness interventions, increased total sleep duration within 24 hours.

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## **Study Reveals Substantial Economic Burden from Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis**

Psoriatic arthritis followed by psoriasis were associated with higher absenteeism costs, sick leave usage, and short-term disability leave and corresponding costs when compared to those without psoriatic disease.

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## **Fatigue is Top Health Condition Impacting Productivity Loss Among South Korean Employees**

A study of nearly 4,000 South Korean employees determined that fatigue, neck and/or shoulder pain, sleep deprivation, back pain, and headache were the most common health conditions among employees and affected work impairment burden the most.

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### **Upcoming Events**

October 5-6, 2021: [IBI/Conference Board Health and Productivity Forum \(Chicago\)](#)

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