

Towards a successful career: investigating the effect of an occupational wellbeing program among young workers

Submission date 04/03/2021	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered <input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
Registration date 18/03/2021	Overall study status Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan <input type="checkbox"/> Results
Last Edited 06/02/2023	Condition category Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data <input type="checkbox"/> Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Background and study aims

A successful and supported start is important for a person's working career. "Towards a successful career" is a study that aims to gain more knowledge regarding the efficacy of resource-based occupational wellbeing training programs delivered using videoconference software. The target group includes young workers (under the age of 30) who have been employed in their current job for a maximum of one year. The study will also explore the learning outcomes of a supervisor training program to increase guidance-related preparedness among supervisors.

Who can participate?

Employees of all genders aged between 18-30 years old and their supervisors.

What does the study involve?

The participating young workers will be randomly allocated to one of two groups to receive one of the two supportive processes, with an equal chance of being in either group (like tossing a coin). The first group will receive an occupational wellbeing group training program delivered via videoconference software. The second group will be provided with a self-study reading material regarding occupational wellbeing.

In addition, supervisors of participating young workers will receive training in giving feedback and supporting young employees. Employees and supervisors participating in the study respond to the questionnaires before training or receiving support material, and about 1 month and 6 months after receiving them.

What are the possible benefits and risks of participating?

The possible benefits of the study include improved occupational wellbeing and organizational adjustment among the participating young workers and improved supervisor skills among participating supervisors. No risks are anticipated.

Where is the study run from?

The Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (Finland). The study will be conducted in Helsinki and various other locations in Finland.

When is the study starting and how long is it expected to run for?

From August 2020 to August 2023

Who is funding the study?

The Finnish Work Environment Fund (Finland), the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (Finland), and the participating companies.

Who is the main contact?

Mikko Nykänen, PhD, mikko.nykanen@ttl.fi

Study website

<https://www.ttl.fi/tutkimushanke/onnistuneesti-tyouralle-2020-2023/>

Contact information

Type(s)

Scientific

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Additional identifiers

EudraCT/CTIS number

Nil known

IRAS number

ClinicalTrials.gov number

Nil known

Secondary identifying numbers

200091

Study information

Scientific Title

Randomized controlled trial to assess the efficacy of a resource-based occupational wellbeing program among young workers

Study objectives

1. The intervention group (intervention arm 1) will experience a greater increase in work-related sense-of-coherence, newcomer preparedness (self-efficacy, inoculation against setbacks), role-clarity, proactive work behavior, task-mastery, organization-based self-esteem, and perceived supervisor and co-worker support compared to the control group (intervention arm 2) from T1 (baseline) to T2 (immediately after intervention)
2. The intervention group will experience a more beneficial impact on job engagement, psychological resources, and lower perceived stress compared to the control group from T1 (baseline) to T3 (7 months after baseline measurement)
3. Intervention effect on self-efficacy mediates the beneficial impact on proactive work behavior
4. Intervention effect on newcomer preparedness mediates the intervention effect on work-related sense-of-coherence
5. Intervention effect on organization-based self-esteem (OBSE) mediates the beneficial impact on job engagement
6. The intervention will enhance supervisors' preparedness to guide young employees

Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

Ethics approval(s)

Approved 19/02/2021, Finnish Institute of Occupational Health ethics committee (Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, P.O. Box 40, FI-00032, Työterveyslaitos; +358 30 474 1; maria.tiikkaja@ttl.fi), ref: 3/2021

Study design

Multicenter interventional two-arm randomized controlled trial

Primary study design

Interventional

Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

Study setting(s)

Other

Study type(s)

Prevention

Participant information sheet

<https://www.ttl.fi/tutkimushanke/onnistuneesti-tyouralle-2020-2023/>

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Young worker occupational wellbeing and organizational socialization

Interventions

Previous:

Study participants (young workers) will be randomized within workplaces on a 1:1 allocation ratio by using simple randomization with computer-generated random numbers to the following trial arms:

Updated 08/04/2021:

Study participants (young workers) will be randomized within workplaces on a 1:1 allocation ratio by using block randomization with computer-generated random numbers to the following trial arms:

1. The intervention arm 1 (intervention condition) will receive a resource-based occupational wellbeing training program. This training program involves three (3 h each) group meetings delivered via a videoconference tool.
2. The intervention arm 2 (control condition) will receive self-study reading material including information on the same topics discussed in the resource-based training program. The main difference between these two conditions is that arm 2 does not participate in the group training sessions delivered via videoconference tools.

In addition, the supervisors of young workers in both arms receive training on how to provide feedback and support. Supervisor training is delivered using a videoconference tool and involves three group meetings (2 h each).

The resource-based occupational wellbeing training and supervisor training is implemented within one month for each group. The interventions will run from May 2021 to February 2023. Surveys for young workers and supervisors will take place from March 2021 to August 2023. Young workers participating in the study respond to the survey approximately 1 month before the intervention, immediately after the intervention and 7 months after the baseline measurement. Supervisors participating in supervisor training respond to the survey before the training, immediately after the training, and 7 months after the baseline measurement.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome measure

1. Newcomer preparedness (self-efficacy and inoculation against setbacks) measured using a questionnaire (16 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 7 months
2. Work-related sense-of-coherence measured using a questionnaire (9 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 7 months
3. Perceived supervisor and co-worker support measured using a questionnaire (18 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 7 months
4. Work-related goals measured using a questionnaire (9 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention
5. Organization-based self-esteem (OBSE) measured using a questionnaire (10 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 7 months
6. Role clarity measured using a questionnaire (2 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention
7. Job engagement measured using a questionnaire (9 items) at baseline and 7 months
8. Psychological resources measured using a questionnaire (3 items) at baseline and 7 months
9. Perceived stress measured using a questionnaire (1 item) at baseline and 7 months
10. Proactive work behavior measured using a questionnaire (3 items) at baseline, immediately

after the intervention, and after 7 months

11. Task mastery measured using a questionnaire (2 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention

Secondary outcome measures

1. Supervisors' preparedness to guide young employees measured using surveys (16 items) at baseline, immediately after the intervention, and after 7 months

Overall study start date

02/08/2020

Completion date

31/08/2023

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

Current interventions as of 03/06/2021:

Employees:

1. Aged between 18-30 years
2. Fluent Finnish language skills

Supervisors:

1. Work in a supervisory position within the organization
2. Have young employees, as defined above, as their subordinates

Previous interventions:

Employees:

1. Aged between 18-30 years
2. A maximum of one year in the current job
3. Fluent Finnish language skills

Supervisors:

1. Work in a supervisory position within the organization
2. Have young employees, as defined above, as their subordinates

Participant type(s)

Healthy volunteer

Age group

Adult

Lower age limit

18 Years

Upper age limit

30 Years

Sex

Both

Target number of participants

300

Total final enrolment

250

Key exclusion criteria

Does not meet inclusion criteria

Date of first enrolment

23/03/2021

Date of final enrolment

02/12/2022

Locations

Countries of recruitment

Finland

Study participating centre

Finnish institute of Occupational Health

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Sponsor information

Organisation

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Sponsor type

Government

Website

<http://www.ttl.fi/en/Pages/default.aspx>

ROR

<https://ror.org/030wyr187>

Funder(s)

Funder type

Government

Funder Name

Työsuojelurahasto

Alternative Name(s)

Finnish Work Environment Fund, Työsuojelurahasto Arbetarskyddsfonden, Työsuojelurahasto | Helsinki

Funding Body Type

Government organisation

Funding Body Subtype

National government

Location

Finland

Funder Name

Finnish Institute of Occupational Health

Results and Publications

Publication and dissemination plan

Planner publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

Intention to publish date

01/08/2024

Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan

The datasets generated and analyzed during the current study will not be available due to agreement with study participants.

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available