

## **The Inverse relationship between Job Satisfaction, VAS for Pain, and Workdays Lost Due to Minor Motor Vehicle Accidents**

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### **Purpose**

To evaluate the impact of Job satisfaction, using a Standardized Job Satisfaction Survey (JSS), and the VAS, on days lost from work due to MVA's in our cohort.

### **Method**

102 patients were accrued in which the inclusion criteria were: All had been seat belted occupants in cars involved in a MVA in NYC, and had been employed at the time of the accident. None had a prior accident & were over the age of 18 at the time of the accident. A 3rd party insurer compensated all, all had a lawsuit still pending at the time of examination, exams were normal, & had an Injury Severity Score (ISS) from 1-8. All patients have filled out a VAS, JSS, and a medical history questionnaire. All patients were seen for Neurologic and Orthopedic exams.

### **Results**

All results were significant on a two-tailed t-test ( $p < .05$ ), the mean workdays lost, VAS, and JSS scores were 61.12 days, 58.47mm, and 36.45 respectively. The independent samples T-test (IS-T) comparing two subgroups within the JSS scores (0-29 vs. 30-60), showed a significant difference in workdays lost ( $<30 = 107.24$  &  $>30 = 33.73$ ), and for VAS scores ( $<30 = 72.16\text{mm}$  &  $>30 = 50.34\text{mm}$ ). The IS-T comparing two halves in the VAS showed a significant difference in workdays lost (0-49 = 24.58 & 50-100 = 77.07), and in the JSS scores ( $<49 = 50.65$  &  $>49 = 30.25$ ). The cohort showed a significant difference in workdays lost between (Clerical = 44.88 & Physical = 75.56) jobs based on an IS-T.

### **Conclusions**

The inverse relationship where higher job satisfaction results in less days missed from work and a lower pain scale and vice versa for a lower job satisfaction is a relationship that should be examined on a larger multi-center prospective trial, which includes both urban and non-urban areas, individuals who are not pursuing a lawsuit, and municipalities where 3rd party MVA insurers are not either mandated to, nor do they customarily reimburse for time lost from work.