

The Sustainable Management of Sickness Absence in Slaughterhouses

Marie Louise Kirkegaard



Contact:

Marie Louise Kirkegaard, PhD student
Akademivej
Building 358
2800 Kgs. Lyngby
+ 45 45 25 45 47
mlki@dtu.dk
www.man.dtu.dk

Supervisor/co-supervisor:

Christine Ipsen
Kasper Edwards

Collaborating partners:



Funded by:

Management DTU
Danish Crown

Start and completion date:

1 December 2018 to 30 November 2021

I am investigating six Danish slaughterhouses, in order to understand, how the central policies on Sickness Absence (SA) are understood and acted out as procedures by managers, and how these are perceived to influence the SA of the work by the management and the blue-collar workers.

Background

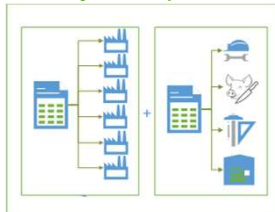
Work in slaughterhouses for blue-collar workers is mainly done in production lines, with a set piece rate. There is an interdependency among the workers to keep up the speed of the production and thereby the piece rate. The job is noisy and physically demanding, there is a high level of work related sickness in the business as a whole, there is a higher risk of accidents compared to other manual jobs.

The work can be classified as 'dirty work', however it also been shown, that workers at slaughterhouses find meaning and generate pride from their trade and from the physical prowess, stamina, and force of the worker.

Methods

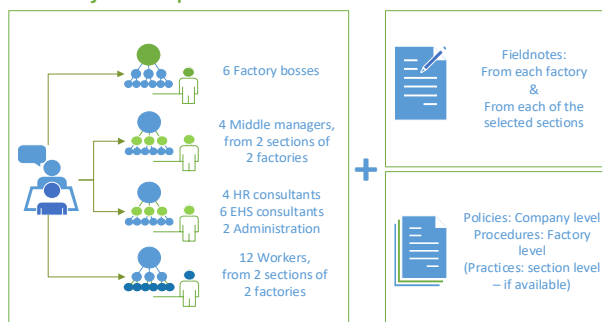
quant → QUAL

Secondary data is quantitative



Differences between factories and between sections

Primary data is qualitative



I am conducting interviews, making field notes, and analyzing policies and procedures

Expected results

The analysis will give us an insight into the sustainable management of the blue-collar work, and help us understand, how the cross organizational perceptions and changes of SA are transformed into policies, procedures and practices.

