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# THE DEVELOPMENT OF A SELF-ADMINISTERED QUESTIONNAIRE TO ASSESS EXPOSURES TO HAND-TRANSMITTED AND WHOLE-BODY VIBRATION AND THEIR HEALTH EFFECTS

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A large British survey is being conducted to identify sources of occupational exposure to hand-transmitted and whole-body vibration, and to estimate the approximate extent of such exposures and their health effects. The principal information on exposures and morbidity will be derived from responses to a postal questionnaire specially developed by the Medical Research Council and the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research, Southampton University. In this paper some of the underlying considerations are described and the iterative process of consultation, refinement and field testing employed in the questionnaire's development. The questionnaire is fully documented in an accompanying appendix.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

The last British survey of occupational exposure to vibration, which was undertaken more than a decade ago, concerned exposures to hand-transmitted vibration (HTV). Selected visits were made to workplaces registered with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), and exposure histories of workers were obtained by proxy, by questioning their managers. No attempt was made at the time to measure workplace exposures directly, or to obtain information on health complaints. However, it was estimated that more than 400 000 workers were regularly exposed to the potentially injurious effects of HTV [1].

No comparable national survey has ever been conducted on occupational exposures to whole-body vibration (WBV) in Britain, but one such study is now underway. The Medical Research Council (MRC) and Institute of Sound and Vibration Research (ISVR), Southampton University are undertaking a further investigation on behalf of HSE, aimed at obtaining a contemporary estimate of the size and health impact of occupational exposures to vibration, including WBV as well as HTV. The study's principal aims are: to estimate the number of workers in Great Britain employed in processes that entail significant exposure to HTV and WBV; to identify the occupations and the industrial sectors where the exposures arise; to estimate the approximate extent of these exposures in occupations and industries where exposure is likely to be significant; and to identify the tools, machines and vehicles that give rise to exposure. One important facet of the survey

involves identifying unsuspected pockets of exposure; another involves estimating the prevalence and prevalence rate ratios for symptoms attributable to HTV and WBV, by occupation and industry, thus providing an insight into those exposures most likely to matter in terms of health.

The MRC–ISVR study will collect information on exposure to vibration and symptom prevalences from the community. A postal questionnaire is being mailed to 22 000 working-aged adults selected from the registration lists of family doctors in England, Wales and Scotland. Subjects will be classified by occupation and industry, and prevalence estimates for the national population will be derived from national census information on occupational frequencies [2].

The study questionnaire was developed over a nine month period by an iterative process of consultation, refinement and field testing. The process, the issues that were raised, and the end result are documented in this paper.

#### 2. OBJECTIVE

The objective was to develop a postal questionnaire suitable to assess community exposures to HTV and WBV and their associated health effects.

#### 3. METHODS

The questionnaire was developed within a multidisciplinary team of two occupational epidemiologists, an occupational hygienist, and two vibration specialists. The broad components of the questionnaire were first identified, and were closely dictated by the aims of the study. They included occupational history, exposures to HTV and WBV (sources and extent), relevant health outcomes, and potential confounders of associations with these outcomes. More particularly, a deliberate decision was taken to focus on contemporary exposures (particularly those within the week preceding completion of the questionnaire), rather than lifetime work histories; and to include exposures arising from second jobs and leisure-time pursuits. The principal health outcomes selected for investigation were: Raynaud's phenomenon, sensorineural complaints of the upper limbs, musculoskeletal complaints of the upper limbs, low back pain, noise-induced hearing loss and tinnitus.

A panel of health questions was selected from existing models used in other settings. The Nordic questionnaire [3] is a validated, repeatable questionnaire, widely used in surveys of musculoskeletal complaint; while questions on low back pain [4], finger blanching [5] and hearing impairment [6] have all been used and validated in earlier MRC community surveys. These questions permit an assessment of the severity and frequency of symptoms, and the extent to which they interfere with work and leisure. "Dummy" health outcome questions (pain reports at sites other than those of principal interest, such as hip and knee pain in subjects with HTV exposure) were also included to help assess potential reporting biases; and questions about headaches, tiredness, low spirits and feelings of stress, to ascertain possible psychological risk factors for complaint.

No widely accepted or validated questionnaire could be found for assessing exposure to vibration, and most effort was expended in this area. A preliminary list of exposure sources was drawn up, based on tools identified by CEN/TC 231/WG2 as requiring type testing, and a literature review by the Institute of Sound and Vibration Research. The researchers then invited comment on notable omissions and errors, and received responses from 10 HSE specialist and principal inspectors, 12 members of a working group on HTV at the Royal College of Physicians Faculty of Occupational Medicine, UK [7], and 12

trades unions and trade associations representing relevant occupational groups. All sources of information were collated and used to identify a list of named tools and vehicles that might be considered for inclusion.

These processes identified 151 descriptions of sources of HTV and 64 descriptions of sources of WBV (see Table 1). Overlapping and synonymous descriptors were aggregated as far as possible to abbreviate the list. (Thus, for example, it was considered justifiable to replace the four items "riveting hammer", "riveting bolster", "riveting tool" and "bucking bar" with one item called "riveting hammer or dolly".) However, the shortened list was still considered too long for all of its items to be included in a postal questionnaire. The final selection, of 38 HTV categories and 26 WBV categories, was made qualitatively from the short list, consideration having been given to the frequency with which tools and machines were identified by the consultees and sources, the degree of overlap between descriptors, and existing ideas about the frequency of use in the community. (The items that were selected are marked in the final column of Table 1).

The process of assembling the exposure list highlighted an important area of difficulty: a comprehensive list of exposure sources, though desirable, was incompatible with the requirements (comprehensibility and brevity) of a self-completed postal questionnaire. The variety of tools, vehicles and machines was too wide; and this difficulty was compounded by the variety of uses to which apparently similar tools, vehicles and machines were put in different occupations and industries, and the thousands of synonyms by which exposure sources were described and recognized by workers. Whichever the choices made, it seemed unlikely that any list would cover all possible patterns of response. So, to cover omissions and failures of recognition, an open section was provided in which respondents were permitted to record other sources of exposure in their own words.

The precise wording and ordering of exposure questions underwent several revisions prior to field testing. The panel was concerned that workers' perceptions of relevant exposure thresholds and intervals might be inappropriate. For example, the magnitude of vibration recognized as "vibrating" or "shaking" the hands or body could be higher than the biologically relevant threshold; workers might have difficulty distinguishing relevant exposure windows, such as hand-tool contact time or time with a vehicle's engine running, from the total time taken to complete a task; and could fail to recognize circumstances where the principal exposure arose through contact with an article being worked, rather than from direct contact with the machine that was the source of vibration. These concerns were addressed in various ways. In the closed section on exposure sources, the element of judgement on relevant exposures was eliminated by enquiring not about vibration, shaking or jolting, but about "use" of specified tools or machines (HTV), or "driving/riding/standing" on specified machines, vehicles or platforms (WBV) in the previous week. Where most confusion was anticipated concerning threshold or route of exposure, the tools or WBV environments were deliberately placed in this section. Finally, in all questions concerning exposure durations, it was emphasised that the time interval of interest was the time "with the tool switched on and held" (HTV), or the time that "the engine was running or power on" (WBV).

The draft questionnaire was evaluated for a sample of workers from occupations and industries with likely exposure to a variety of sources of HTV and WBV. Responses were evaluated to ascertain their completeness, and to identify the questions that most often led to default. Interviews were conducted with a small subset of respondents to determine the time taken to complete the questionnaire and to test understanding of the questions. Further discussions and consultation with a third vibration specialist led to some refinements and two further rounds of field testing, consultation and amendment, as described below.

TABLE 1	s, vehicles and machines identified by a literature review and consultation process for possible inclusion in the postal	questionnaire	
	Tools, vehicles and		A TT 1 1

A. Hand-transmitted vib	ration								
	HSE Book	ISO	CEN TC231	CEN TC231	ISSA	Handbook of Human	1st draft of	Consultation	Final draft
	HS(G)88	8662.X	WG2	WG2	brochure	Vibration	Questionnaire	responses	Questionnaire
Equipment	(E)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(9)	(8)	(6)	(10)
Percussive metal-working	tools tools								
Riveting hammer	•	•	•		•	•			
Riveting bolster (dolly)			•	ĺ		•			
Riveting tool							•		
Bucking bar			•			•			
Riveting hammer or dolly									•
Caulking hammer	•		•			•			•
Caulking tool							•		
Chipping hammer		•	•		•	•	•		•
Pneumatic chiselling						•			
Fettling tool						•	•	•	
Clinching and	•		•			•	•		•
flanging tool	1					1			ı
Hammer swager	•					•			•
Swaging tool							•	•	
Needle gun			•		•	•	•		•
Scaler		•	•			•			
Descaling hammer			•			•			•
Sheet metal hammering						•			
Drilling						•			
Wire drawing								•	
Percussive tools used in :	stoneworkir	ig, quarryi	ing, const	ruction, e	stc.				
Percussive hammer	•	•				•		•	
Hammer drill		•	•		•	•	•		•
Impact drill		•			•	•			
Vibratory compactor	•					•			
Concrete breaker	•		•			•			•
Pneumatic breaker		•			•	•			ĺ
Hydraulic breaker						•			
Jackhammer							•		
Road drill							•		

Ctonomicalia e tool									
Poker									
Sander	•					•			
Drill	•					•			
Rock drill		•	•			•	•	•	•
Jack leg drill		)	)				•	•	•
Wacker						•			
Flant anti fast									
Elephant's root								•	
Tamper			•			•			•
Kango hammer								•	
Rammer		•	•						
Pneumatic spade			•						
Mechanical pick									
Pile driver/extractor									
Scabbler			)						
Toint outtor									
Kotary cutter				•					
Stone cutting								•	
portable saw									
Stihl saw								•	
Grinders and other rotary 1	cools								
Pedestal grinder	•	I	•			•	•		•
Hand-held portable	•	•				•	•		•
erinder	1	1				1			•
Hand-held arinder									
Vortion and a									
verucai grinder									
Angle grinder			•		•				
Straight grinder			•		•				
Swing frame grinder			•		•	•			
Flex-driven grinder	•		•			•			
Fettling tool								•	
Polisher	•		•		•			•	
Buffer	)		)		•	•		•	
Hand-held sander								•	
Hand-held polisher							•		•
Polisher/sander			•						
Radial sander			•						
Orbital sander		•	•						
Vibration sander					•				
					•				
								(Continued or	next nage
								(CUMMMON VI	new puses

A. Hand-transmitted vibra	ution					aca)			
	HSE		CEN	CEN		Handbook			
	Book HS(G)88	ISO 8662.X	TC231 WG2	TC231 WG2	ISSA brochure	of Human Vibration	1st draft of Ouestionnaire	Consultation responses	Final draft Ouestionnaire
Equipment	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(9)	(8)	(6)	(10)
Rotary de-burring tool	•					•	•	•	•
Rotary engrager			•						
Engraving pen				•				l	•
Die-grinder		•	•						
Stone cutter						•			
File		•	•						
Reamer								•	
Linisher								•	
Fixed linisher								•	•
Hand-held cutter								•	
Glass engraving								•	
Lathe-turning machine								•	
Timber and wood machin	ing tools								
Chain saw	•		•		•		•		•
Non-A/V chain saw						•			
A/V chain saw						•	•	l	I
Brush cutter	•		•						
Brush saw					•	•			•
Circular saw	•		•						•
Mower	•					•			
Motor mower							•	•	
Hand-guided mower					•				
with shears									
Lawn mower			•					•	
Hand-guided mower								l	•
Shears	•		•			•			
Hedge cutter (shears)			•						
Hedge trimmer			•				•		
Hand-held hedge									•
trimmer									
Hardwood cutting	•								
machine	(				(	(	(		(
Barking machine	•		(		•	•	•		•
Stump grinder			•					•	•

TABLE 1 (Continued)

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Sod cutter								•	
Shaft driven shearer			•					•	
Knife			•						
Strimmers	•		•					•	
Circular knife (slicer)	•		•					•	
Keyhole saw			•						
Jig saw			•						•
Pad saw			•						
Mechanical hack saw			•						
Oscillating saw		•							
Router or spindle				•					
moulder									
Milling machine				•		[			
Edge moulder				•					
Shaper, shaver, plane				•					
Thicknesser				•					
Surface planer				•					
Other processes and tools									
Pounding machine	•					•	•		•
(shoe manufacturing)									
Drain suction machine	•								
Nut runner	•					•	•	•	•
Impact wrench		•	•		•	•	•		•
Ratchet wrench			•						
Bold cutter				•					
Concrete crusher				•					
Rammer					•				•
Concrete vibrothickner	•				•	•	•		•
Concrete levelling	•					•	•		
vibrotable									
Vibrating plate			•						
Vibratory roller				•					•
Bush hammer			•						
Nailing gun			•						
Stapling gun			•						
Stud gun			•						
Nailing/stapling gun								•	•
Cartridge operator tool			•						
Fastener driving tool		•							
								(Continued o	n next page)

				TABLE	1 (Continu	(pən			
A. Hand-transmitted vibi	ation				,				
	HSE		CEN	CEN		Handbook			
	Book	ISO	TC231	TC231	ISSA	of Human	1st draft of	Consultation	Final draft
	HS(G)88	8662.X	WG2	WG2	brochure	Vibration	Questionnaire	responses	Questionnaire
Equipment	(]	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(9)	(8)	(6)	(10)
Sheet metal shears			•						
Nibbling machine		•	•		•			•	•
Wall chosing cutter			•						
Screwdriver		•				•			
Electrical screwdriver	•								
Impact screwdriver			•						•
Pedestrian-controlled			•						
tractor									
Rotary hoe				•					
Grading harrow				•					
Block splitting machine				•					
Hand-held mixer				•					
Motorbike handles						•			
Motor cycle							•		•
Ultrasonic therapy						•			
machine									
Floor polisher							•	•	•
Buster								•	
Concrete disc cutter								•	
Steel rope making								•	
(hammer swaging)									
Wire drawing pointers (roller swaging)								•	
Abrasive blasting tool								•	
Water jetting tool								•	
Manual hammer								•	

	ISSA brochure	Handbook of Human Vibration	HSE leaflet IND (G) 242L	1st draft of Ouestionnaire	Consultation responses	Final Ouestionnaire
Equipment	(5)	(9)	(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Agricultural and earth-moving equil	pment					
Tractor	•	•	•			•
Tractor and other agricultural and				•		
forestry machinery						
Earth-moving machinery		•	•			
Other earth-moving machinery						•
specify:						
Grader	•	•	•			•
Road roller	•					•
Roller		•	•			
Off-road truck, dumper	•					
Dumper truck		•				
Dumper			•			•
Scraper	•	•	•			•
Loader		•	•			•
Wheel loader	•					
Track-type loader	•					
Bulldozer	•	•	•			•
Excavator	•	•	•			•
Sugar beet harvester				I	•	
Forage harvester					•	
Combine harvester					•	
Lawnmower	•					
Mower (seated)						•
Off-road forestry vehicle		•				•
Mine/quarry machine		•				ļ
Other off-road vehicle			•			
Other off-road vehicle-specify:						•
Construction and quarrying				•		
vehicles and machinery						
					(Contri	nued on next page)

B. Whole-body vibration

B. Whole-body vibration						
	ISSA brochure	Handbook of Human Vibration	HSE leaflet IND (G) 242L	1st draft of Ouestionnaire	Consultation responses	Final Ouestionnaire
Equipment	(5)	(9)	(1)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Vehicles of other types						
Forklift truck	•	•	•		•	•
Industrial truck, such as lift		•	•	•	•	•
truck and straddle carrier						
Road haulage vehicle				•		
Articulated truck	•	•				
Truck	•	•				
Lorry			•			•
Truck/Lorry/Van						
Van	•					•
Car		•			•	•
Taxi					•	
Bus or coach		•				•
Bus			•			
Tram		•				
Mobile crane	•					•
Bridge crane (on rails)	•	•				
Other crane		•			•	
Container truck						
Locomotive	•	•			•	
Rail vehicle (train/tram)						•
Motorcycle		•	•		•	•
Airport baggage tug					•	
Industrial machines						
Rock crusher	•				•	•
Concrete tile and pipe vibrating	•					
machinery						
Car body sheet press	•					
Concrete production machine		•				•
Concrete making machine			•			
Engine test facilities		•				
Large static compaction,				•		

	mill
punching	. hammer
or J	ы ы
hammering,	machinery -

environments
Military

Tank		•					
Personnel carrier		•					
Armoured vehicle			•			•	
Aircraft							
Helicopter	I	•	•			•	
Fixed wing		•					
Aeroplane			•	I		I	
Other aircraft						•	
Sea craft							
High speed boats		•					
High speed boat or hydrofoil			•				
High speed boat, hovercraft or hydrofoil						•	
Other							
Other machine or vehicle that causes vibration, frequent jolting or both (name of machine or vehicle and its use):			•			•	
	031	T		Ct. 1. 1			L

tor HSE—Health and Safety Executive; ISO—International Organization for Standardization; CEN—European Committee Standardization; ISSA—International Social Security Association.

From *Hand-Arm Vibration* [8]. (2) Tools currently planned to be covered by parts 2 to 17 of ISO 8662. (3) Tools for which there is a need for vibration type tests and specific clauses on vibration in tool safety standards according to CEN/TC 231/WG 2 (N99 March 1994).
 Tools for which more information is sought on vibration emissions according to CEN/TC 231/WG 2 (N99 March 1994). (5) From *Vibration at Work* [9]. (6) From *Handbook of Human Vibration* [10]. (7) From HSE Guidance Leaflet *In the Driving Seat* [11]. (8) Tools, vehicles and machines in first draft of the questionnaire (June 1996). (9) Suggestions made by consultative parties (see text). (10) Tools, vehicles and machines selected to appear in the final questionnaire.

## VIBRATION EXPOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE

#### 4. RESULTS

Altogether the questionnaire was tested in 116 workers (98 men and 18 women aged 20-60 years) from a variety of industries, including a foundry workshop (17 subjects), the subassembly department of a company manufacturing radiators and heating appliances (38 subjects), the works department of a hospital (10 subjects), the highways maintenance department of a local authority (22 subjects), and the fabrication and product development departments at a shipbuilder's yard (29 subjects). The departments were chosen to include workers known in the main to have exposure (83 respondents had been exposed to HTV in the previous week, and 40 to WBV), but also included a small group of white collar workers (ten) with no prior exposure history. Occupations represented in the sample included fettlers, die casters, moulders, furnacemen, machinists, assemblers and packers, electricians and engineers, carpenters, plumbers, fitters, turners, gardeners and groundsmen, road workers, metal fabricators, shipwrights, and heavy goods vehicle and lift truck drivers. A wide range of exposures were reported by pilot participants, encompassing 28 of the 38 tool families subsequently included in the final questionnaire, and 11 of the 26 exposure sources finally selected for the whole body section. Twelve workers were later interviewed to identify particular difficulties encountered in completing the questionnaire.

Fifty per cent of the questions remained unaltered throughout the test period; and a further 42% were changed in layout, wording or emphasis, but not in substance between the first and last rounds of testing.

However, several significant changes were made. The open section on sources of exposure was used by some 56% of respondents in the first round of piloting, so more space was allocated to it in revision, and respondents were asked to identify the relevant task, as an aid to interpretation of responses. The questions on exposure duration also underwent revision. Initially, banded estimates of weekly exposure times ("less than an hour per week", "1–4 hours per week", etc.) were employed, but it was discovered, when respondents were later interviewed, that several had confused daily with weekly time estimates. The approach was considered to have other undesirable properties—in particular it led to estimate of personal daily exposure ( $A_8$ ), and involved making *a priori* assumptions about the most appropriate bandings. So, banded time estimates were replaced with a request to estimate weekly exposure times on a continuous scale (in "hours and/or minutes over the whole week"). Finally, the questions on duration and seasonal pattern of exposure were simplified, some of those on past exposure were strengthened.

These changes markedly enhanced the completeness of returns: in the first round of piloting the key questions (occupation, industry, exposure in the previous week and health outcomes) were completed in all particulars by only 40% of respondents, but this had improved to 88% in the final version, which is reproduced for information in the appendix that follows.

An occupational hygienist compared the exposure responses with his knowledge of the industries and their likely exposure sources, and considered them reasonable. However, a more formal evaluation of workers' ability to estimate weekly exposure times is planned, including direct observation and measurement in a sample of employees who complete the exposure section of the questionnaire.

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS

The pilot sample was chosen to include a cross-section of workers considered qualitatively to be representative of those most likely to complete the exposure section of the principal study. It included a high proportion of workers from manual occupations with recent occupational exposure to HTV and WBV, and highlighted a number of areas capable of improvement.

In some cases this meant foregoing items of information that were subsidiary to the study's principal aims. The design of a questionnaire suitable for self-completion by a large community sample inevitably involves some element of compromise. It proved impractical to offer a complete, comprehensible list of exposure sources, and the trade-off will be extra difficulty in data coding and interpretation of open responses. The complexity (and long-term recall requirements) of lifetime and seasonal exposure estimation were similarly eschewed, and weekly exposure estimates were selected in preference to more detailed information on daily exposure patterns. The choice of wording in key exposure questions represented a trade-off between precision and simplicity, but the balance was struck in favour of clarity and a much improved completion rate.

Workers' capacity to estimate their own exposures still requires more formal evaluation; while variations in pattern of exposure over time represents a remaining area of concern. It seems likely that short cycle variations and periods of atypical exposure will even out within a large sample, and do, in any case, contribute to the broad picture of national exposure, which is dynamic rather than static; but estimates in occupations with strong seasonal work patterns may give a misleading impression of the annual exposure picture. The questionnaire will be distributed in summer and winter mailings, permitting a cross-check of responses within occupations at different calendar periods, while the questions on representativeness of exposure (questions 15 and 19 in the appendix) permit biases to be detected, at least at a qualitative level.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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SEC	TION ONE ABOUT YOURSELF			
1.	Please fill in your date of birth	Ε	day month	year
	and your sex		male fe	male
2.	How tall are you? feet inches or cm			
3.	Are you right or left handed? Right	Left Able to	o use both hands eq	jually
4.	How would you best describe your racial origin? European	ndia/Pakistan	Afro-carib	bean
	South-east Asia	Other		
5.	Have you ever smoked regularly (i.e. at least on	ce a day for a month or No	longer)?	Yes
	<i>If yes,</i> how old were you when you first smoked	regularly?		years
	And do you still smoke regularly?	No	,	Yes
	<i>If no,</i> how old were you when you last smoked r	egularly?		years
6.	Have you had a paid job during the past week?	Na		Yes
	If no, please go to Section Four on page 14			
	lf yes, please continue.			

## VIBRATION EXPOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE

V	hat was your main OCCUPATION during the past week?	In what INDUSTRY did you carry of farming, shipyard, car factory, shoe s	ut this occupation (e hop, hospital, insura	.g. ince
	On what date did you start this job	?	Date starte	ear
	Are you self employed in this job?		No	Yes
	Does an <b>average working day</b> in	the job involve any of the following?		
	Working outdoors for more than tw (i.e. not in a building or enclosed ve	io hours ehicle)	No	Yes
	Working in a refrigerated building o (e.g. a coldstore)	r room	No	Yes
	Lifting or moving weights of 20 lbs or more by hand	(10 kg)	No	Yes
	Lifting or moving weights of 56 lbs or more by hand	(25 kg)	No	Yes
	Digging or shovelling		No	Yes
	Working with your hands above sh	oulder height for more than one hour	No	Yes
	Needing to shout most of the time	to be heard by your colleagues	No	Yes
	Use of a computer keyboard or typ	ewriter for more than four hours	No	Yes
	Work on a night shift.		No	Yes
	Were you at work in the pas	t week?	No	Yes
	If no, please go to Section Three of	on page 12. If yes, please continue.		L

During the <u>past week</u> , did you use any of the following powered tools or machines in the job? (tick as many boxes as apply)			
Tool or machine		Tool or machine	
Floor polisher		Stone-working hammer	E
Nut runner		Rotary hammer swager	
Impact wrench		Rotary burring tool	
Impact screwdriver		Engraving pen	
Jig saw		Hammer drill	
Circular saw		Riveting hammer or dolly	
Chain saw		Chipping hammer	
Hand-guided mower		Scaling hammer	
Hand-held hedge trimm	er	Caulking hammer	
Brush saw		Rammer	
Barking machine		Needle gun	
Stump grinder		Nibbling machine	
Concrete breaker (road	breaker)	Clinching and flanging tool	Γ
Rock Drill		Concrete vibrothickener	
Tamper		Nailing or stapling gun	
Scabbler		Pedestal grinder	

VIBRATION EXPOSURE QUESTIONNAIRE

	Continued		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	Pedestal linisher		Hand-held sander
	Hand-held portable grinder		Shoe pounding-up machine
	Hand-held polisher		Vibratory roller
	Or	None of these [	(If none, go to question 13, page 6)
2.	For those tools/machine know the total number o <u>whole week</u> . Please only count the tir	es that you have ti of hours (or minute me that the tool wa	icked in question 11, we would like to res) you worked with them over <u>the</u> ras SWITCHED ON AND HELD. If you
	cannot give the exact tin	ne, please give yo	our best estimate.
	Write the name of the too	ol/machine below	Write the total time you used it over the whole week in the boxes below
1.			hours mins
2.			hours mins
3.			hours mins
4.			hours mins
5.			hours mins
6.			hours mins
	·		B

	ids?	
No (go to qu	uestion 14)	Yes (continue below)
<i>If yes</i> , we would like (or minutes) you wo Please only count th exact time please giv	e to know which tools or n rked with them over <u>the wh</u> ne time that the tool was SV ve your best estimate.	nachines, and the total number of hour <u>tole week</u> . VITCHED ON AND HELD. If you cannot
Write the name of the tool/machine below	Write the total time you used it over the whole week	Describe the job that the tool/machine was used to do
1	hours mins	
2	hours mins	
3	hours mins	
4	hours mins	
5	hours mins	
6	hours mins	
7	hours mins	
8	hours mins	

14. In your main job not already told of the year)?	o, do you <u>ever</u> use l us about (e.g. too	other powered vibrating Is used only occasionally	tools that you hav y or at certain time
No		Yes	
<b>es</b> , which tools?			
1		4	
2		5	
		6	
<u> </u>			
15. Was your use o typical of the cu	f powered vibrating Irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	oast week fairly
<ol> <li>Was your use or typical of the cu Not applicable (don't)</li> </ol>	f powered vibrating Irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	p <b>ast week fairly</b> Yes
15. Was your use of typical of the curve of typical of the curve of the curve of the curve of the typicable (don't of the typicable (don't of the typicable of typicable of the typicable of typicable of the typicable of	f powered vibrating irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	p <b>ast week fairly</b> Yes
15. Was your use or typical of the cu Not applicable (don't If no, in what way wa	f powered vibrating irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	o <b>ast week fairly</b> Yes
15. Was your use of typical of the curve of typical of the curve of	f powered vibrating Inrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	Past week fairly Yes
15. Was your use or typical of the cu Not applicable (don't <i>If no,</i> in what way wa	f powered vibrating Irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	Past week fairly
15. Was your use of typical of the current of th	f powered vibrating Irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	Past week fairly
15. Was your use of typical of the curve of typical of the curve of	f powered vibrating inrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	Yes
15. Was your use of typical of the current of th	f powered vibrating Irrent job?	g tools/machines in the p	Yes

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16. During the <u>past week</u> did you drive, r or vehicles in the job? (tick as many bo	ride or stand xes as apply)	on any of the following machin	es
Vehicle or machine		Vehicle or machine	
Car (other than going to and from work)		Dumper	
Van (other than going to and from work)		Other earth-moving machinery (specify)	
Bus or coach (other than going to and from work)		Road Roller	
Trai∩ (other than going to and from work)		Mower (seated)	
Motor cycle (other than going to and from work)		Off road forestry vehicle	
Rock crusher		Armoured vehicle	
Concrete production machinery		Other off-road vehicle (specify)	
Tractor		Lift truck/Forklift truck	
_oader		Mobile crane	
Excavator		Lorry	
Bulldozer		Helicopter	
Grader		Other aircraft	
Scraper		Highspeedboat, hovercraft or hydrofoil	
Or None of these (If no	one, go to questi	on 18, page 10)	



18. During the <u>past we</u> vehicles or machin	<u>ek</u> in your job did you drive es that caused vibration or t	ride/sit or stand on any <u>othe</u> frequent jolting or both?
No (go to que	stion 19)	/es
<i>If yes,</i> we would like to drove/rode/stood on th	know which machines/veh nem <u>over the whole week</u> .	icles, and how long in total yo
Please only count the If you cannot give the	time that the ENGINE WAS I exact time, please give you	RUNNING OR POWER ON. best estimate.
Write the name of the vehicle/machine	Write the total time over the whole week	Describe the job the vehicle/machine was used to do
1	hours mins	
2	hours mins	
3	hours mins	
4	hours mins	
5	hours mins	
6	hours mins	

Э.	Was the time you spent over the <u>past we</u> machines typical of the job?	<u>eek</u> riding/driving/stan	ding on such
	Not applicable (Don't ride or drive vehicle or machine)	No	Yes
lf r	<b>no,</b> in what way was it unusual?		
_			, , <u>, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , </u>
).	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv	ve/stand on vehicles o	or machines
<b>)</b> .	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)?	ve/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa	or machines ation or asionally or
D. If y	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa	or machines ation or asionally or
). If y 1.	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No Yes, which vehicles/machines?	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes 4	or machines ation or asionally or
D. If y 1. 	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No ves, which vehicles/machines?	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or
). If y 1. 	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or
<b>)</b> . <b>If y</b> 1. 2. 3. 3.	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No /ves, which vehicles/machines?	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or
<b>If y</b> <u>1</u> . <u>-</u> <u>3</u> . <u>-</u>	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or
<b>If y</b> 1. 2. 3.	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or
<b>If y</b> 1. 2. 3.	In your main job do you <u>ever</u> ride on/driv (other than those you have already desc frequent jolting that you can feel (e.g. ve at certain times of the year)? No res, which vehicles/machines?	re/stand on vehicles of ribed) that cause vibr hicles only used occa Yes	or machines ation or asionally or

OTHE	R JOBS	PAST WEEK
SEC	TION THREE OTHER JOBS HELD	
21.	Did you work at any other job during the past week? No If no, please move on to Section Four on page 14. If yes, please continue	Yes
22.	What was the other job?         Occupation	
	Are you self-employed in this job?	No Yes
	Does an <b>average working day</b> in the job involve any of the following? Working outdoors for more than two hours (i.e. not in a building or enclosed vehicle)	No Yes
	Working in a refrigerated building or room (e.g. a coldstore)	No Yes
	Lifting or moving weights of 20 lbs (10 kg) or more by hand	No Yes
	Lifting or moving weights of 56 lbs (25 kg) or more by hand	No Yes
	Digging or shovelling	No Yes
	Working with your hands above shoulder height for more than one hour	No Yes
	Use of a computer keyboard or typewriter for more than four hours	No Yes
	Needing to shout most of the time to be heard by your colleagues?	No Yes
	Work on a night shift	No Yes
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that made your hands vibrate?	work with a powered tool or machine
<i>If yes,</i> we would like to know which tools and for ho <u>the whole week</u> . Please only count the time that the	w long (in hours or minutes) you worked with the e tool was SWITCHED ON AND HELD.
Write the name of the tool/machine below	Write the total time you used it over the whole week in the boxes below
1	- hours mins
2	- hours mins
3	hours mins
4	- hours mins
<ol> <li>During the <u>past week</u> did the job invol vehicle/machine (such as those listed</li> </ol>	ve driving/riding/standing on a
<ul> <li>During the past week did the job involvence/machine (such as those listed No</li> <li>No</li> <li>If yes, We would like to know which machines or vedrove /rode /stood on them over the whole week. FOR POWER ON.</li> </ul>	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes Phicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you Please count only the time with THE ENGINE RUI
<ul> <li>26. During the past week did the job involvence/machine (such as those listed No</li> <li>If yes, We would like to know which machines or vedrove /rode /stood on them over the whole week. FOR POWER ON.</li> <li>Write the name of the vehicle/machine below</li> </ul>	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes Phicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you Please count only the time with THE ENGINE RU Write the total time you drove/rode/stood on over the whole week in the boxes below
During the <u>past week</u> did the job involvehicle/machine (such as those listed No No If yes, We would like to know which machines or vedrove /rode /stood on them over the whole week. FOR POWER ON. Write the name of the vehicle/machine below 1	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes Phicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you Please count only the time with THE ENGINE RUI Write the total time you drove/rode/stood on over the whole week in the boxes below
During the <u>past week</u> did the job involvehicle/machine (such as those listed No No Vehicle/machine is those listed No Verice /stood on them over the whole week. For POWER ON.  Write the name of the vehicle/machine below	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes behicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you lease count only the time with THE ENGINE RUI Write the total time you drove/rode/stood on over the whole week in the boxes below hours mins hours mins
26. During the past week did the job involventicle/machine (such as those listed No	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes Phicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you Please count only the time with THE ENGINE RUI Write the total time you drove/rode/stood on over the whole week in the boxes below hours mins hours mins hours mins
26. During the past week did the job involvehicle/machine (such as those listed No	ve driving/riding/standing on a in question 16 page 8)? Yes Phicles and for how long (in hours or minutes) you Please count only the time with THE ENGINE RUI Write the total time you drove/rode/stood on over the whole week in the boxes below hours mins hours mins hours mins hours mins

r

P/	AST JOBS	EXPOSURES
SI	ECTION FOUR EARLIER JOBS AND EX	POSURES
27.	Other than in the work you have already a paid job which involved working with a made your hands vibrate for more than a	told us about, have you EVER had a powered tool or machine that an hour a week?
	No (go to question 29)	Yes (continue)
	Approximately how old were you whe	n you first did this work?
28.	What were the tools/machines you used (Question 11 page 4 lists some possible tools)	at that time?
1.		3.
2.		4.
	And what was the job and industry?	
	Occupation	Industry (e.g. farming, shipyard, car factory etc.)
29.	In your spare time (i.e. outside work), ha made your hands vibrate, for more than No (go to question 30)	ave you ever <i>regularly</i> used a tool or machine that an hour per week? Yes (continue)
	Approximately how old were you when you first did	I this?
	And what were the tools or machines? (Question	11 page 4 lists some possible tools)
1.		3.
2.		4.
		14

PAS	T JOBS	ΗΕΔΙΤΗ
30.	In you spare time (i.e outside work the past week the <u>total number</u> of the vehicles listed below. If you o estimate.	and going to and from work), please estimate for hours (or minutes) you spent driving or riding in cannot give the exact time please give your best
	Total time over week         Car or van	Total time over week Train hours mins
	Bus or coach hours mins	Motorcycle hours mins
31.	How long altogether have you work heard? Never	ked in noisy places where you had to shout to be less than 12 months 1-5 years
	6-10 years	More than 10 years
	SECTION FIVE HEALTH	
32.	During the <u>PAST 12 MONTHS</u> , hay diagram, which lasted for more th during pregnancy, during menstrua such as 'flu).	ve you had back pain in the area shown in the lan a day? (Do not include pain occurring only I periods, or during the course of a feverish illness
	) (	No Yes
		If yes, did the pain spread down your leg to below your knee?
		Did it make it difficult or impossible to put on socks, stockings or tights? No difficulty Difficult but Impossible
		And have you had the pain during the <u>past week?</u>
		15

3. I	PAIN IN THE PAST WEEK AND PAST YEAR:						
é	Answer the questions below u even if you have never had a	sing the ti ny trouble	ck box in the	es - one tick for each qu ese parts of your body.	iestion. I	Please answer these question	
During the <b>past week</b> have you had pain lasting a day or more in your:		During the <b>past 12 months</b> have you had pain lasting a day or more in your:			During the <b>past 12 months</b> have you been <b>prevented</b> from carrying out normal activities (eg. job, housework, hobbies) because of pain in your:		
No	Yes	Knees No	Yes	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Knees No	Yes	
No	Yes	Hips No	Yes		Hips No	Yes	
No	e <b>rs</b> Yes right shoulder	Shoulde No	rs Yes	right shoulder	Should No	e <b>rs</b> Yes right shoulder	
	left shoulder			left shoulder		left shoulder	
	both shoulders			both shoulders		both shoulders	
eck No	Yes	Neck No	Yes		Neck No	Yes	
/rists/h	nands	Wrists/h	ands		Wrist/ha	ands	
	right wrist/hand		res	right wrist/hand		Yes right wrist/hand	
	left wrist/hand			left wrist/hand		left wrist/hand	
	both wrists/hands			both wrists/hands	i 	both wrists/hands	
lbows		Elbows			Elbows		
	Yes right elbow		Yes	right elbow	No	Yes right elbow	
	left elbow			left elbow		left elbow	
	both elbows			both elbows		both elbows	
					<u> </u>		

HE	ALTH HANDS AND ARMS
34.	If you have had elbow pain in the last year, have you received an injection from a doctor to treat it?
35.	NUMBNESS OR "PINS AND NEEDLES" IN THE PAST WEEK AND PAST YEAR.
	In the past week have you had tingling or numbness that lasted at least three minutes in your: In the past 12 months have you had tingling or numbness that lasted at least three minutes in your:
	Fingers/thumbs? No Yes No Yes
	Other parts of the hand(s)? No Yes No Yes
	Other parts of the arm(s)? No Yes No Yes
	If yes to any of the above, has the tingling or numbness disturbed your sleep?     (PAST WEEK)     (PAST 12 MONTHS)
36.	Is your little finger (or little and ring finger) of either hand permanently bent as shown opposite so that you cannot straighten it, even with the other hand? No Yes
37.	In the past year have you once or more had episodes when a finger or
	fingers have locked (got stuck), in the position shown in the diagram opposite and needed to be straightened using the other hand to help?
	If yes, how many fingers have got locked or stuck? (write a number in the boxes below) Number in the right hand Number in the left hand
	17

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HEA	LTH	FINGERS AND	THUMBS	
38.	Have you ever had attacks in which any or all of your fingers suddenly be and at the same time turned white or pale?	came cold and numb,		
	16	No 🔄	Yes	
	If no please move on to question 47. If yes please continue			
39.	Approximately how old were you when you first had one of these attacks?	,		
40.	years Which fingers/thumbs have gone white or pale? (Indicate by shading the parts that have gone pale on the diagram).			
	Left Hand Right Hand	7		
41.	Have attacks ever been brought on by any of the following? Cold conditions	No	Yes	
	Washing up	No	Yes	
	Use of a tool or machine	No	Yes	
	(If yes, which tools or machines?)		<u> </u>	
42.	During an attack have you ever noticed a clear "edge" between the white			
	or pale part of your finger and the normal colour of your hand?	No	Yes	
43.	Have you ever had an attack during the summer?			
		No	Yes	
44.	Have you ever had an attack so bad that you were unable to carry on			
	with what you were using at the time?	No	Yes	
45.	Have the attacks ever been bad enough for you to see a doctor about the	em?		
		No	Yes	
	If yes, what did the doctor say the problem was?			
	18			

HEAI	LTH			FINGERS A	ND THUMBS
40					
46.	How many attacks have you had during the	e past 12 moi	- 49	50 - 99	100+
		]			
47.	Have you ever noticed that any of the follo	wing have als	so gone white or pa	ale?	Vec
		TUES			
		Ears		No	Yes
•		Nose		No	Yes
48.	In the past week have you found it difficult	to do any of	the following activi	ities? (please tick	¢).
		No difficulty	Difficult but not impossible	Impossible	
	Turn a door knob or lever				
	Open a tight jar lid				
	Put on a jacket or pullover				
	Fasten buttons				
	Pour from a jug or teapot				
			·		·
49.	Do you use a nearing aid?				Yes
	(if you do, please answer the following	questions a	s if <u>not</u> wearing t	he aid)	
50.	How well you can hear a person who is ta room? (Please tick one box)	lking to you w	vhen he is sitting o	n your RIGHT S	DE in a quiet
	Cannot hear him at all	With g	reat difficulty	With moderat	e difficulty
	With slight difficulty	With	n no difficulty		
		19			
		13			

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HEALTH	OTHER HEALTH PROBLEMS			
<b>51.</b> How well you can hear a person who room? ( <i>Please tick one box</i> )	How well you can hear a person who is talking to you when he is sitting on your LEFT SIDE in a quiet room? ( <i>Please tick one box</i> )			
Cannot hear him a	Cannot hear him at all With great difficulty With moderate difficulty			
With slight diffic	ulty With no difficulty			
52. During the past 12 months have you h whistling) which lasted longer than fiv	2. During the past 12 months have you had noises in your head or ears (such as ringing, buzzing or whistling) which lasted longer than five minutes?			
No, never Ye	es, but not most of the time Yes, most or all of the time			
53. OTHER HEALTH PROBLEMS:				
How often do you suffer from the follow	ving?			
Headaches	Never Occasionally Frequently			
Feeling constantly tired	Never Occasionally Frequently			
Feeling low in mood or spirits	Never Occasionally Frequently			
Feeling tired or under stress	Never Occasionally Frequently			
*********	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *			
You have finished. Thank you for completing the form. Please could you now post it back in the envelope provided? We are grateful for your help.				
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