

Research summary: Effects on working conditions after usage of FreshWall

Study background

The research was based on a survey where 605 employees of 18 different workplaces were asked to rank working conditions and personal health. The survey was conducted before and couple of months after use of FreshWall at the workplace. Research questions were:

1. Does usage of FreshWall have effect on working conditions?
2. Does usage of FreshWall have effect on employees' health?

Methods

Common effect of both research questions was analyzed with linear mixed models where response variable was an average of many condition/health questions with personal information as covariates. The most significant changes in individual condition/health variables were found out by χ^2 –tests with Bonferroni correction.

Results

Common working conditions and employees' health increased statistically significantly during the use of FreshWall. The most significantly increased working condition were "Dry air" (proportion of answer 'Never' 24% -> 49%), "Low temperature" (23% -> 39%), "Stuffy air" (21% -> 36%) and "Smell of mildew" (54% -> 69%). The most significantly decreased symptoms were "Tiredness" (proportion of answer 'Never' 8% -> 21%) and "Cough" (40% -> 57%).

Discussion

It is assumed that all changes in conditions and health are due to FreshWall and a possible placebo effect has not been controlled. Seasonal change may also be a co-source of changes. On the other hand some subjects didn't have a wall in the room, where they work most of the time and therefore the FreshWall effect may be reduced in data. All in all, there is evidence of positive changes after use of FreshWall.

Data analysis by: Analyysitoimisto Statisti Oy

Additional information: risto.heikkinen@statisti.fi tel. +358505475677