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The ageing workforce: A health issue?

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Considers whether similarities between age groups outweigh the differences, with respect to health affected at work.

Due to demographic changes, the average age of the working population in the UK is rising. Research shows that physical and mental ability changes with age. There are small differences between the age groups considering their reported ill health across occupations and industries. Workers in administrative professions and sales and customer service occupations are less likely to be affected by work than their overall share in the workforce would suggest. Older employees who are working long hours are less likely to report negative effects on their health than other employees or than the share of employees working these hours. Overall, the data and literature show that similarities between the age groups with respect to their health being affected by work outweigh the differences.

Misc

The Full Text of this article can be found on the National Statistics website (http://www.statistics.gov.uk/elm/02_07/downloads/ELMR02_07Hotopp.pdf).