Is Hybrid Working Good for Health, Safety and Wellbeing? An Overview of Systematic Reviews

Roya Gorjifard¹, Joanne Crawford², Stephen Blumenfeld³, Chris Peace⁴, Steve Bowe⁵

The What and Why?

- Hybrid working: Working from home or away from an employer's location, part-time or fulltime, using information technology (IT).
- Hybrid working has become popular post-Covid-19pandemic.
- What do we know about the health and wellbeing of hybrid workers so far?
- > Work and home/family interface affect work-life balance.*
- > What are other aspects of health and wellbeing?**

Method

- > Systematic review method
- > We reviewed 8 systematic reviews published from 2011 to 2022.

Objectives/Outcome

- > To provide a descriptive summary
- > To provide a theoretical working model for hybrid working

Why Systematic Review?

- Provides the latest research and information
- Provides the highest forms of evidence

To inform recommendations for policy design & development, health & Wellbeing promotion.

Findings

- **Effective communication**
- Social isolation
- Professional isolation
- Work-life balance
- **Body discomfort**
- Flexibility (working anywhere, anytime)
- > Focus on individual task
- > Autonomy



- Productivity and Performance
- > Health and Wellbeing
 - Work exhaustion
 - Job satisfaction

- Organisational support
- No. of days working from home per week
- Individual's home, family & life circumstances
- **Gendered roles**
- Hybrid working is an option
- * Gendered roles
- * Gorjifard, R., & Crawford, J. (2021). Working from home: Impact on wellbeing and work-life balance. New Zealand journal of employment relations. https://doi.org/10.24135/nzjer.v46i2.63
- ** Gorjifard, R., Bowe, J. S., Blumenfeld, S., Peace, C., & Crawford, J. O. Health and wellbeing effects of teleworking: An overview of systematic reviews. Accepted for publication 2024.

Author's Affiliation

- ¹ PhD Candidate & Associate Fellow at School of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, ProfNZISM, HASANZ registered, New Zealand, Email: roya.gorjifard@vuw.ac.nz
- ² Professor, WorkSafe New Zealand Chair in Health and Safety, School of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- ³ Senior Lecturer, Director of Centre for Labour, Employment and Work, School of Management, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- ⁴ Lecture, Occupational Health and Safety, School of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- Lecture, Occupational Health and Safety, School of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand
- ⁵ Associate Professor of Biostatistics, School of Health, Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand

Acknowledgement

The research is supported by funding in the form of a Victoria University of Wellington Doctoral Scholarship.





