Title	Assessment of working conditions and implementation of changes among
	employees with spinal cord lesion – A case series
Author	Leif Sandsjo, Kirsi Valtonen, Lena Olsson Grundell, Ann-Katrin Karlssong and
	Eira Viikari-Juntura
Source	Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation
Pub Date	2008
Keywords	Spinal cord injury, meningomyelocele, rehabilitation, employment,
	musculoskeletal disorders, intervention
Abstract	The objective of this study was to identify work situations of concern, implement
	changes, and evaluate how these changes affect working conditions in a group of
	employees with traumatic spinal cord injury (SCI) and meningomyelocele
	(MMC).
	Six persons with traumatic SCI and one with MMC were visited by an ergonomist
	at their workplace and assessed regarding accessibility and physical workload
	factors, especially risk factors for neck/shoulder disorders. The working
	conditions were documented by means of video, questionnaires, and the
	ergonomist's own observations. From situations identified, including the
	participant's own reporting of problematic situations, possible changes were
	discussed and implemented if feasible. All participants were offered to take part
	in a myofeedback intervention, aiming at reducing muscle load of the neck and
	shoulder muscles.
	A remodelling of the workplace to get better access to items and tools was carried
	out in five out of seven cases. After these changes, the number of identified
	situations of concern was reduced. The relative rest time (RRT) improved in the
	neck and shoulder after the intervention in the four participants that completed the
	myofeedback training. This study demonstrates that the working conditions of
	persons with spinal cord lesion (SCL) can be improved by an ergonomic
	intervention.