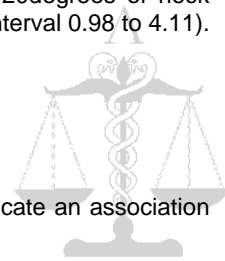


*G.A.M.Ariens et al. Occupational and Environmental Medicine (2001) Vol.58 #3 p.200.*

A three-year longitudinal study of 1334 employees, employed in a variety of work types. Outcome of interest was neck pain (possibly a source of referred pain for DRSI). Outcome assessed by questionnaire. Posture was the proposed risk factor, measured by video.

Results indicate that adopting a sitting position while working was a risk factor for neck pain Relative Risk 2.01 (95% confidence interval 1.04 to 3.88). Closer analysis indicated that 20degrees of neck flexion for more than 70% of work time increased the risk by 2.01 (95% confidence interval 0.98 to 4.11).

The study found no additional risk associated with neck rotation.



### **Comment**

These results are not statistically significant, even though the RR values would indicate an association on the balance of probabilities.

These results would probably not assist with risk assessment (duty of care).

Neck pain is not a diagnosable outcome.