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Titel des Beitrags:
Working time of neurosurgical residents in Europe--results of a multinational survey.

Abstract:
The introduction of the European Working Time directive 2003/88/EC has led to a reduction of the working hours with distinct impact on the clinical and surgical activity of neurosurgical residents in training. A survey was performed among European neurosurgical residents between 06/2014 and 03/2015. Multiple logistic regression was used to assess the relationship between responder-specific variables (e.g., age, gender, country, postgraduate year (PGY)) and outcome (e.g., working time). A total of 652 responses were collected, of which n = 532 responses were taken into consideration. In total, 17.5, 22.1, 29.5, 19.5, 5.9, and 5.5% of European residents indicated to work 80 h/week, respectively. Residents from France and Turkey (OR 4.72, 95% CI 1.29-17.17, p = 0.019) and Germany (OR 2.06, 95% CI 1.15-3.67, p = 0.014) were more likely to work >60 h/week than residents from other European countries. In total, 29% of European residents were satisfied with their current working time, 11.3% indicated to prefer reduced working time. More than half (55%) would prefer to work more hours/week if this would improve their clinical education. Residents that rated their operative exposure as insufficient were 2.3 times as likely as others to be willing to work more hours (OR 2.32, 95% CI 1.47-3.70, p50%
of his/her working time in the operating room. By contrast, 77.4 % indicate to devote > 25 % of their
daily working time to administrative work. For every advanced PGY, the likelihood to spend > 50 % of
the working time in the OR increases by 19 % (OR 1.19, 95 % CI 1.02-1.40, p = 0.024) and the
likelihood to spend > 50 % of the working time with administrative work decreases by 18 % (OR 0.84,
95 % CI 0.76-0.94, p = 0.002). The results of this survey on > 500 European neurosurgical residents
clearly prove that less than 40 % conform with the 48-h week as claimed by the WTD2003/88/EC.
Still, more than half of them would choose to work even more hours/week if their clinical education
were to improve; probably due to subjective impression of insufficient training.