

Who is getting benefit of OSH research?

Raili Perimäki

Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)

Future OSH research

- Always one step forward
 - Detect sensitive signs and movements of change in the working life
 - Use more interdisciplinary approaches
 - Listen to social partners and occupational health and safety organisations at workplace level
- Research of interventions
 - Adapt working conditions to individual needs of workers (particularly when problems of work ability or handicapped, bridge employment)
- Less surveys more valid facts
 - Social partner and other policy makers need valid data for negotiations and regulations on national and Eu-level (current MSD regulation)
- Make research results comprehensible

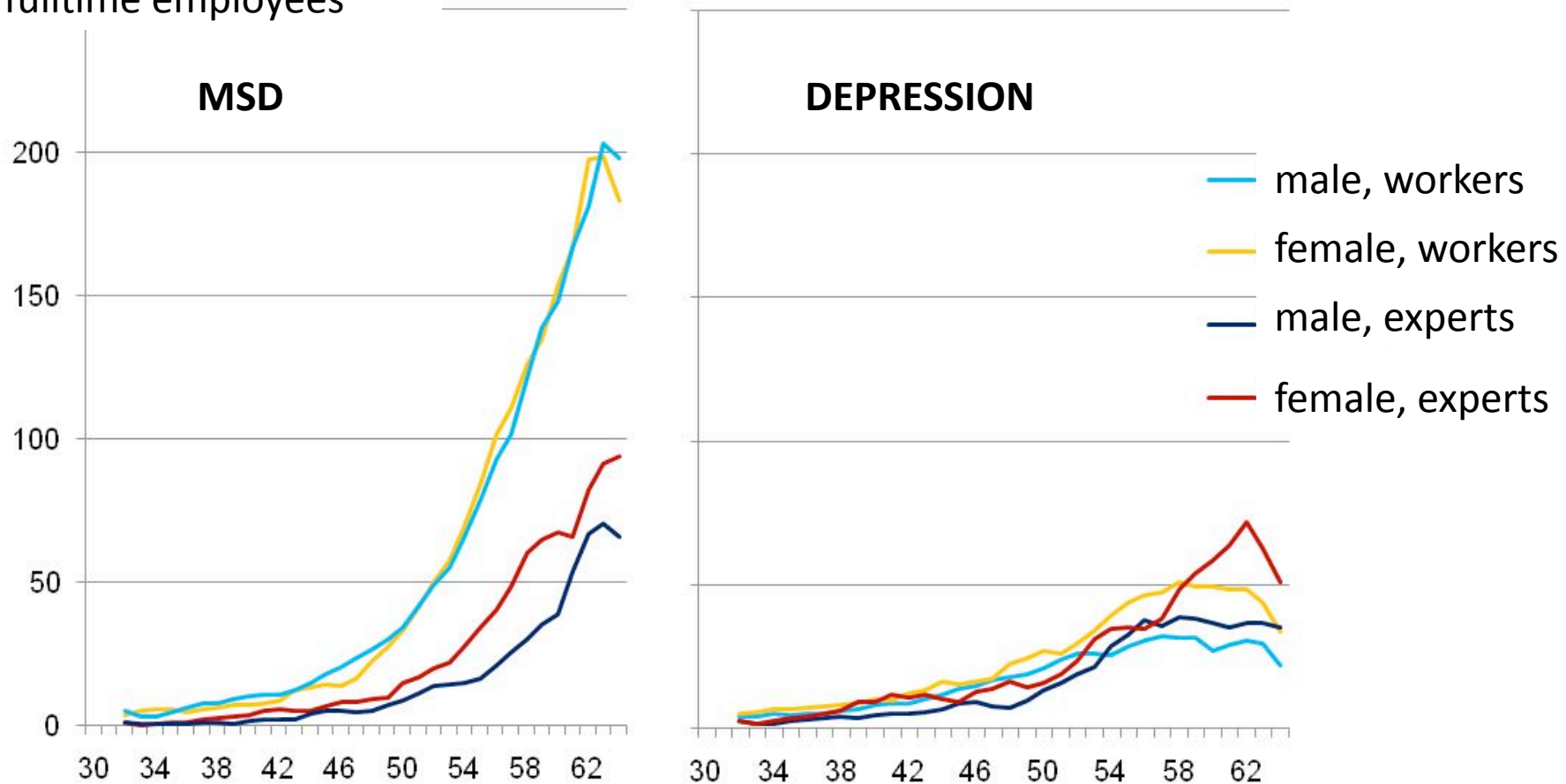
Priorities in OSH

- Nano, work related cancer, cognitive strain at work (not only psycho-social)
- Work organisation, working context and content
- Multifactor risks
- Prevention of accidents
- Young and old
- Gender
- Precarious work
- Motivation/attitude at work
- More collective instead of individual approach

Early retirements due to MSD or depression

blue color and yellow/white color workers according to age and sex

Retirements in 10.000
fulltime employees



Lähde: Pensola, Gould, Polvinen 2010

Future role of research & challenges

- Scientists/researchers as mediator/translator
- More participation - Research is today far away from real working life
- Dialog and mutual language between research and practice
- Research aims and questions should target real change and improvements in working life
- Be brave and independent – comprehensible conclusions and recommendations
 - Also deal with inconvenient topics
- Research results should not only serve the research career nor the image of the research institute

Participatory research

- Workers are not rats in laboratories!

