

**Occupational mobility in nineteenth century rural England:
the interpretation of enthesal changes.**

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Occupational mobility in nineteenth century rural England: the interpretation of enthesal changes.

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Identified skeletal collections have been widely used to test methods for recording enthesal changes. These studies have all used the occupation provided with the death certificate or equivalent as the occupation during life. However, the variety of tasks undertaken within occupations, the range of occupational tasks and how these changed over the life course is rarely discussed. The aim of this paper is to highlight the value of using historical data to improve the interpretation of skeletal data.

Materials and Methods: Identified adult skeletons (n=18), from the churchyard of St. Michael and St. Lawrence, Fewston, North Yorkshire, England were recorded for enthesal changes (EC) and degenerative joint changes (DJC). The individuals were born and died between 1791 – 1921 (only one individual was buried after the churchyard's closure in 1896). All individuals have at least one census record which includes their occupation. Published sections of a diary coinciding with the cemetery's use and written by the son of two of the identified individuals were used to record the frequency and range of activities.

Results: 54.5% of males and 29% of females changed their occupations and those who changed occupation were found to be older than those who did not. The latter were found to have a lower frequency of DJC and EC, but this is likely due to the difference in age profile between the two groups. However, the detailed pattern of EC did not match that of DJC for the three occupation categories used. The diary demonstrated that a stonemason undertook a wide variety of occupational tasks as well as enjoying hobbies.

Discussion: The results demonstrate that occupations in nineteenth century rural England were not stable and demonstrated a wide variety of everyday and infrequent activities. This demonstrates that using occupation listed at death does not provide sufficiently detailed information for testing methods of recording EC or for interpreting the relationship between occupation and health.

Keywords

Fewston, North Yorkshire; historical evidence; musculoskeletal stress markers (MSM); degenerative joint changes (DJC); degenerative joint disease (DJD); diary; census; farming

Introduction

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3 The study of activity-related stress through enthesal changes (EC) has become more critical
4 and scientific (Jurmain *et al.*, 2012), exemplified by the testing of recording methods on
5 identified skeletal collections (Villotte, 2006; Villotte, *et al.*, 2010; Cardoso, 2008; Alves
6 Cardoso and Henderson, 2010; Mariotti *et al.*, 2004; Henderson *et al.*, 2012; Milella *et al.*,
7 2012). All these studies have utilised the occupation listed at death to categorise individuals
8 in these collections by occupation. Concerns regarding the systematic classification of final
9 occupations have been raised elsewhere (Alves Cardoso and Henderson, 2012; Lopreno
10 Perréard *et al.*, 2012). Occupational mobility, an area normally discussed in terms of
11 economic history (Miles, 1993), has been highlighted as a potential confounding factor when
12 interpreting degenerative changes in identified skeletal collections (Alves Cardoso and
13 Henderson, 2010). It is crucial when interpreting human skeletal remains to adopt a
14 biographical perspective; the skeleton does not represent a snapshot of an individual at death,
15 but incorporates a variety of experiences pertaining to different life course stages (Gowland
16 and Thompson, in press; Robb, 1998; 2002). It is therefore important to investigate the
17 occurrence of occupational mobility in identified skeletal collections and its implications for
18 the understanding and interpretation of EC and other degenerative changes.
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25 In order to do so, systematic records on occupation accompanying identified collections are
26 necessary. Identified skeletal collections in Britain commonly span the 17th to early 19th
27 centuries (Cox, 1996; Brickley, *et al.*, 2001; Cowie *et al.*, 2008; Miles, *et al.*, 2008; Scheuer
28 and Bowman, 1995). While some of the individuals within these collections have detailed
29 biographies, *e.g.* Samuel Richardson (Eaves and Kimpel, 1971), these are the higher ranking
30 individuals. Occupational data were not collected systematically until the civil registration of
31 births and deaths in 1837 (Whitehead, 2000) followed by the 1841 census of households,
32 organised by the General Register Office (Higgs, 1989). These censuses continued every
33 subsequent decade in March or April (Higgs, 1989), and were not solely undertaken for social
34 and economic purposes, but also to study mortality (Higgs, 1991; 1995; Holdsworth, 1998).
35 Householders were asked to include only occupations which were apprenticeships or waged,
36 thereby excluding much female paid (particularly part time or seasonal) work (Higgs, 1987;
37 1995; Hill, 1993). Enumerators, who helped householders complete the census forms, played
38 a part in standardising occupations, particularly those of females. In some cases social
39 convention led to the occupation of married women being listed as 'housekeeper' (Higgs,
40 1989). In contrast, female members of farming families were listed as 'farmer's wife' or
41 'farmer's daughter', and, while this did not apply to other family-run businesses in the 1841
42 census, some enumerators applied this terminology to all females, *e.g.* 'stonemason's wife'
43 (*ibid.*). In censuses taken between 1851 and 1871 this became more standard and most
44 females were listed in the format of "wife of *husband's occupation*"; particularly those
45 thought to share their husband's role and therefore the same risks for disease and death
46 (Higgs, 1987; Hill, 1993). In spite of their limitations, when accompanied by an identified
47 skeletal collection from the same period, these census records allow the effect of occupational
48 mobility on EC and other degenerative changes to be tested.
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56 While the census records capture occupational data for populations, their resolution for daily
57 life is poor, they do not record seasonal changes in occupation (being deliberately timed to
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3 avoid workers being absent from home during harvest season), and their resolution for female
4 occupations and activities (e.g. unpaid employment working in the home) is poorer still. This
5 is where biographical records become useful, particularly diaries. Autobiographical data
6 contained within diaries has proven a particularly rich source of information for illuminating
7 the lives of the working class in the 19th century (e.g. Humphries 2010). While diaries cannot
8 be used to study occupation and activity for populations, they can provide detailed
9 information about individuals and patterns of daily life. However, in most autobiographical
10 works of this period it is the economic activities of the male 'breadwinner' that is paramount
11 (Humphries 2006). Evidence from diaries of this period indicates that females/ 'mothers' may
12 engage in a multitude of seasonal/cyclical occupations throughout the year, or assist with
13 their husbands occupation, in addition to their domestic roles (*ibid.*). These are the primary
14 limitations of using diaries, but the purpose for which they were written should be considered
15 and it should be borne in mind that not all daily tasks and activities will be listed.
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21 The aims and objectives of this paper are to: highlight occupational mobility during the late
22 nineteenth century in rural England; examine the difference between occupation on probate
23 records and occupation during life; study the effect of occupational mobility on EC and
24 degenerative joint changes (DJC); compare EC and DJC in farmers, skilled workers and
25 females. The hypotheses tested were:
26

- 27 1) Farmers, skilled workers and females would have different patterns of EC and DJC
28 distribution, with farmers having higher frequencies of EC and DJC in the lower limb
29 than either skilled workers or females, due to frequent walking around their land
30 tending livestock and crops.
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- 32 2) Occupational mobility leads to higher rates of EC and DJC due to inexperience in the
33 tasks required and change in workload during the adjustment period.
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37 **Materials and Methods**

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39 The rural village of Fewston is located approximately nine miles to the west of Harrogate and
40 nine miles north of Otley in the north of England (Fig. 1). Its Church of St. Michael and St.
41 Lawrence was the parish church for a large rural area, including the communities of Fewston,
42 Norwood, Great and Little Timble, and Blubberhouses (Anon., 2012). The graveyard closed
43 in 1896, although exemptions allowed two individuals to be buried there in the early
44 twentieth century. Development of the Washburn Valley Heritage Centre led to excavation of
45 a section of the graveyard in 2009-2010 by John Buglass Archaeological Services (Buglass,
46 2010). The 144 skeletons recovered had been buried in an area probably extensively altered
47 during rebuilding the body of the church in 1697 (Buglass pers. comm.; Milsted, 2010).
48 Therefore most burials date to the post-medieval period, and coffin plates recovered date to
49 1862-1921. Nineteen individuals were confidently identified through coffin plates or
50 monuments, including eighteen adults and one infant.
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53 Only adults (aged >18 years) were included in this study: seven females and eleven males
54 (Table 1). Biological sex (determined during osteological analysis, Caffell and Holst, 2010)
55 corresponded with gender derived from coffin plates. Occupation was collected from the
56 probate and from the census records. A Portuguese model for categorisation of male activities
57 based on socio-economic status (Roque, 1988), which was previously applied for the study of
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3 the effect of occupation on degenerative processes (Cardoso, 2008; Alves Cardoso and
4 Henderson, 2010; Alves Cardoso and Henderson, 2012), was used to categorise occupations
5 into: female, farmer, skilled worker and unskilled worker. This was based on the occupation
6 listed for the longest duration in the census. Unskilled workers were defined as those for
7 whom apprenticeships would not be required, *e.g.* farm labourer, but not farmers. Skilled
8 workers included tailors and stonemasons. Farmers were categorised separately because of
9 the varied tasks required to run a farm. Female occupations were not subdivided because of
10 the lack of information about them. It is, however, recognised that the classification system
11 itself is a source of bias (for a discussion of this see Alves Cardoso and Henderson, 2012). To
12 study occupational mobility all changes in occupation, including retirement, were collected
13 from the census records.
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16 Data from a diary kept intermittently by John Dickinson (son of John and Mary Dickinson,
17 SLF09 351 and 310 respectively) between 1878 and his death in 1912, summarised by Harker
18 (1988), were used to study the range of activities undertaken. Only the data for the years
19 1878-1879, 1881, 1884, 1889, 1891-1893 and 1897 were included (missing years correspond
20 to either lapses in diary keeping or lost volumes), as this covers the period of cemetery use.
21 The year 1897, although one year after the closure of the churchyard, was included as
22 Dickinson writes that little had changed in his pattern of life in the intervening period (Harker
23 1988: 84). Unfortunately, Dickinson did not always record his physical activities, and the
24 published diary only included a selection of the daily entries. All activities were entered into a
25 spreadsheet to study the range of activities undertaken by the author per day, including
26 playing cards and walking. When other people are mentioned, their activities were also
27 recorded on a separate spreadsheet. The frequency of each activity by year was calculated as
28 the mention of an activity divided by the number of diary entries published for that year
29 (Harker, 1988).
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33 Enthesal changes were recorded blind, *i.e.* no skeletal or documentary data were seen prior
34 to recording. Fibrocartilaginous entheses (see Preface to this volume) were recorded using a
35 visual method (Villotte, 2006) which was then recoded into presence and absence (Table 2;
36 Fig. 2). Scores of 'A' were considered 'absence' of changes, while 'B' and 'C' were pooled as
37 'presence'. This method has been found to differentiate between heavy manual workers and
38 those engaged in non-manual or light manual tasks, while controlling for age (Villotte *et al.*,
39 2010).
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42 Previous studies have demonstrated that individuals with bone forming diseases, *e.g.* diffuse
43 idiopathic skeletal hyperostosis and the seronegative spondyloarthropathies, have higher
44 frequencies of EC than those without (Henderson, 2008). Bone forming diseases were
45 diagnosed based on the presence of unilateral or bilateral sacroiliac ankylosis along with
46 spinal ligament ossification on two or more vertebrae (*ibid.*).
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49 Degenerative joint changes (DJC) were recorded independently from EC. DJC were
50 classified as marginal osteophytes, central osteophytes, joint contour change and porosity
51 (Figure 3) (Rogers and Waldron, 1995; Ortner, 2003; Waldron, 2009). This research did not
52 attempt to relate these changes to any pathological process and therefore the term
53 'degenerative joint disease', which ascribes a pathological aetiology to the changes, was
54 eschewed in favour of a term which does not inherently imply an underlying aetiology:
55 degenerative joint changes (DJC). Eburnation was also not recorded, as this is associated with
56 osteoarthritis. The method used here was one in which each change is considered as a
57 potential, non-specific, stressor on the joint. When recording the DJC a simple presence or
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3 absence of change was recorded, even if multiple degenerative features were present.
4 Preservation was an issue, but was mitigated by the separate recording of each joint facet.
5 This meant that during analysis even partially preserved joints could be included in the total.
6 If one of the elements of a partially preserved joint displayed degenerative change then the
7 joint as a whole was recorded as present with DJC (Craps 2011).
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10 The frequencies presented here are true prevalence rates (TPR), *i.e.* number of elements
11 affected divided by elements available (Waldron, 1994). Due to the limited sample size, and
12 to enable comparisons of EC and DJC by joint, EC frequencies were pooled by joint (Table
13 2) by adding up all the EC present and dividing by the observable number of entheses. This
14 method demonstrates trends in the data, but pools several entheses from each individual.
15

16 17 18 **Results**

19
20 Long-bone ends were frequently damaged or incomplete. Coupled with poor surface
21 preservation, this decreased the sample size for entheses and DJC. No evidence for bone
22 forming diseases was found, but six individuals lacked vertebrae and sacro-iliac joints.
23 However, due to the small sample size it was decided to include all individuals rather than
24 excluding those for which no diagnostic criteria were available.
25

26 27 **Occupations**

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29 The age-at-death of the sample ranged from 23 to 84 years (Table 1), but was not known for
30 one male. At least one census provided data on occupation for each individual (Table 1). For
31 seven males the occupation was also listed in the index to probates. Females were the
32 youngest (median 54, n=7), compared to skilled workers (median 62, n=3) and farmers
33 (median age 71.5, n=6). The one unskilled worker was 26, had been apprenticed to a grocer
34 but was working as a farm labourer which, given the rural location, is more likely to have
35 been the dominant activity. However, as there is only one unskilled worker, no further
36 analyses were performed.
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39 Figure 4 presents the TPR for EC and DJC in the lower limb. Farmers have the highest TPR
40 for both EC and DJC in the lower limb. However, what is most interesting is that DJC and
41 EC provide a different picture for symmetry of changes for the males with a left side bias for
42 EC in the hip and ankle, whereas there is a right side bias for DJC. Table 2 presents the EC
43 TPR by enthesis and it is notable that farmers have EC in all entheses of the hip excepting the
44 *gluteus minimus*. This muscle is only affected in the right hip of females.
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47 In the upper limb, there are also notable differences between the occupation groups and the
48 results from DJC and the pooled EC TPR. The skilled workers demonstrate higher TPR for
49 DJC of the elbow and for the pooled EC of the elbow and shoulder. Farmers have a higher
50 TPR for both DJC and EC in the left hand and wrist but have higher TPR in the right side for
51 all other joints and EC. Females have higher TPR in the right side for hand, wrist and elbow
52 DJC and pooled EC, but a higher TPR for the pooled EC for the left shoulder compared to the
53 right, and no DJC at this joint in either side. Most notably there is a high DJC TPR in the
54 shoulder but low TPR for the pooled entheses (Figs. 4 and 5). TPRs of EC (Table 2)
55 demonstrate a high frequency in farmers in the right *supraspinatus* and *subscapularis*, but no
56 other entheses, while only the *subscapularis* was affected in the females and skilled workers.
57 The left side was less well preserved and only the *subscapularis* was affected in the females
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3 and farmers. For the entheses of the elbow, there is a different pattern of TPR for all
4 occupations and this can be seen particularly in *triceps brachii*, which has a high TPR for all
5 occupations in the right side, is high in the left side for females and skilled workers, while no
6 cases of EC are seen in farmers. For entheses of the hand and wrist, preservation was poor.
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9 Due to limited data available from the published diary (Harker, 1988) activity frequencies can
10 only be used to indicate the range of tasks undertaken (Table 3). However, the data available
11 demonstrate that, although the diarist's father (John Dickinson, SLF09 351) described himself
12 as a stonemason in the census, the likely range of tasks undertaken was greater (Harker,
13 1988). For example, John Dickinson (the diarist) took over the task of registering births and
14 deaths from his father. This job contributed to a lot of the diarist's walking prior to his
15 purchase of a horse and cart (Table 3). The diarist also mentions that his father's favourite
16 pursuit was shooting and he '...never tired of ranging the woods and fields for game' (Harker,
17 1988, 2nd of October 1899).
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19
20 Unfortunately, in the selections made by Harker for the period 1878-1897, few tasks
21 undertaken by women can be identified. John Dickinson does describe collecting water for
22 his mother (SLF09 310) on an icy day and her helping him hang cuts of pork, as well as her
23 laying out two dead villagers. That she did the cooking is implied when he complains in her
24 absence at there being no hot meal ready when he arrives home. However, the fact that she
25 worked hard is indicated: 'My mother has rather more work than I think good, but she is used
26 to work and I don't think she is hurt with it yet' (Harker 1988, 1st September 1881); and he
27 refers to her death in 1886 'after a life of hard work' (Harker 1988, 8th of March 1909). The
28 diarist's wife is rarely mentioned, and although he refers to her housekeeping, there are only
29 individual entries listing the following tasks: laundry, mangling, cleaning, attending the sick,
30 baking tarts and making a hearthrug with help from a friend. There is no evidence of how
31 these tasks would have been performed or how frequently
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35 Occupational mobility

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37 The census records have missing data for six individuals (four females and two males), which
38 may affect the interpretation of occupational mobility. Data for John Dickinson and John
39 Renton Newsome are missing from the 1841 and 1851 censuses. The former first appears in
40 1861 as a stonemason, and then in 1871 as a master stonemason, whereas the latter is listed as
41 a farmer. From the existing data it was impossible to determine whether three of the four
42 affected females (Grace Hutton, Eliza Wigglesworth and Sarah Darnbrook) had changed
43 occupation. Based on the available census records: 2/7 (28.6%) of females and 6/11 (54.5%)
44 of males changed occupation (Table 1).
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47 Only one of the skilled workers had changed occupation (Table 1): Richard Gill who had
48 become a farmer for at least the final three years of his life had been a tailor for at least three
49 decades of his life. Of the farmers, four had changed occupation. Three (David Lister, Joseph
50 Darnbrook and John R Newsome) had retired from farming, while John R Newsome and Gill
51 Wigglesworth had started life as servants. The most noticeable trend is that those who were
52 occupationally mobile were older (male n=6, median =77; female n=2, median=72) than
53 those who were not (male n=4, median=52; female n=5, median=49).
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56 The males and females who were occupationally mobile are always more affected by DJC
57 than those who did not change occupations (Fig. 3). On the right side, the frequencies for the
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3 shoulder and the elbow are exactly the same in both groups. There was a large difference
4 between the TPR of DJC of the wrist/hand between the groups, where the non-occupationally
5 mobile have a higher prevalence than the occupationally mobile. Both previously described
6 patterns are repeated on the left side, but interestingly the left elbow is more affected by DJC
7 in the occupational change-group than in the non-occupationally mobile group. The pooled
8 EC results mirror the DJC results perfectly, including the switch in the left elbow in the
9 males.

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12 For the females, the only comparisons of EC frequency between occupationally mobile and
13 non-mobile groups could be made for left and right *brachialis* insertions and the left *biceps*
14 *brachii* insertion (Table 4). For all of these insertions, which relate predominantly to elbow
15 use, the occupationally mobile have the higher frequency and there is no difference between
16 sides. The only individual in the occupationally non-mobile category with EC changes is the
17 54 year old female, Sarah Gill, who worked as a servant for her entire life.

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20 In the males, the trend is less uniform (Table 4). For those entheses that can be compared, the
21 occupationally mobile have higher frequencies for the right *subscapularis* insertion, left and
22 right *biceps brachii* insertions, right common flexor origin, and left *semimembranosus* origin.
23 Frequencies are identical for some entheses, while the reverse trend, with occupationally
24 mobile individuals having a lower frequency of EC, is found for the right *triceps surae*
25 insertion, and left *biceps brachii* and *triceps brachii* insertions.

26 27 28 **Discussion**

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30
31 The identified individuals from the churchyard of St. Michael and St. Lawrence, Fewston,
32 North Yorkshire, England, although poorly preserved, are an important skeletal collection due
33 to the historical records associated with them. These allow numerous bioarchaeological
34 hypotheses to be tested. The aim of this paper was to highlight preliminary data concerning
35 the variety of tasks undertaken during this period and evidence for occupational mobility, and
36 to study the effect of occupation and occupational change on EC and DJC

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39 The method used to record EC has been developed only recently and, consequently, few
40 publications exist with which to compare the results on occupation directly.
41 Palaeopathological studies that have examined degenerative changes in joints usually look for
42 the presence of osteoarthritis (i.e. an amalgamation of degenerative changes), whereas the
43 primary purpose of clinical studies is to diagnose osteoarthritis so different criteria (e.g.
44 inflammation and joint space narrowing) are used to define the disease. The purpose of this
45 study was to examine the separate changes occurring on the joint surface regardless of
46 underlying pathology. This has not been attempted before and thus no comparative studies are
47 available from the palaeopathological and clinical literature. Both EC and DJC are known to
48 occur in higher frequencies in older individuals, a factor which has to be considered when
49 interpreting the results of this study. The other important limitation to consider is the poor
50 preservation of the skeletal remains leading to very small sample sizes. Therefore, although
51 the hypotheses appear to be supported, this can only be considered a preliminary study and a
52 full study should be undertaken on a larger sample.

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55 This study is limited by gaps in the census records, but, most significantly, by the lack of
56 information on female occupations, which according to Hill (1993) has led to the
57 underestimation of female employment. Indeed, a direct female perspective or 'voice' is
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3 rarely encountered in historical evidence from this period in England (Humphries 2006). This
4 led to all females being clustered into one occupational category ('female'), rather than being
5 subdivided. The documentary data on female activities at this site includes census records for
6 two domestic servants and one dressmaker. It is not clear how a domestic servant's duties
7 would differ from those of the ordinary housewife, or who in the area would be able to afford
8 their services. However, what is clear from the published diary (Harker, 1988) is that wives
9 did fetch and carry water, clean the house, do laundry, mangle and bake. These tasks are all
10 heavy repetitive tasks, many requiring the use of both hands. Lateral and medial
11 epicondylitis, in the clinical setting, is seen particularly in the construction industry, meat
12 cutting and packing, and other work involving repetitive and forceful movements
13 (Karjalainen, 1999). It is these motions which are most likely to have led to the high bilateral
14 frequency of hand and wrist EC as well as to the high frequency of EC in the elbow (for
15 which almost all entheses, apart from the *brachialis*, have high prevalences). However, the
16 bilateral symmetry of the EC data is not reflected in the DJC results, which have a lower
17 prevalence in the left hand and wrist compared to the right. The prevalence for elbow DJC
18 is also low, compared to the EC data. This may be explained by current clinical trends in
19 osteoarthritis patterns. Females tend to have a high prevalence in the wrist and hand (Jones
20 and Doherty, 1995; O'Reilly and Doherty, 2003), but a low prevalence in the elbow
21 (Gramstad and Galatz, 2006; Debono *et al.*, 2004; Stanley, 1994). This may relate to joint
22 shape or to the effect of sex hormones (Huffman and Kraus, 2012). It is clear that different
23 factors are affecting the frequency of EC and DJC.
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28 It is also interesting that the pattern of shoulder DJC and EC differ. This was unexpected, as
29 radiologic studies have demonstrated a correlation between the two (Kerr *et al.*, 1985).
30 Clinical studies focus on the effect of the ageing process on both shoulder osteoarthritis
31 (Millet *et al.*, 2008; Resnick and Niwayama, 1995) and rotator cuff tears (Jiang *et al.*, 2002;
32 Levitz and Iannotti, 1995). The risks are increased for individuals repeatedly performing
33 tasks at shoulder-level, especially if this involves static loading (Andersson, 1995). The only
34 enthesis affected by EC is the *subscapularis* which is involved (with the rest of the rotator
35 cuff) in stabilising the shoulder, while it also medially rotates the humerus. The available
36 historical data does not indicate that this type of loading was occurring in females and may
37 explain the disparity between DJC and EC results. Clinical studies state that the
38 *supraspinatus* is the most frequently affected of the rotator cuff entheses (Levitz and Iannotti,
39 1995). However, other palaeopathological studies have found that the *subscapularis* is more
40 frequently affected (Peterson, 1998; Chapman, 1997; Henderson, 2009). Therefore clinical
41 findings concerning enthesis degeneration may relate to the reporting of symptoms or soft
42 tissue changes, rather than the prevalence of enthesis degeneration. Importantly, this
43 highlights the value of comparing EC and DJC when studying degenerative changes,
44 particularly when studying the effect of activity on their occurrence.
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47
48 Most of the male population were farmers, but it is unclear from the historical data whether
49 they were predominantly arable or livestock based. The evidence from the diary (Harker,
50 1988) suggests a mix of arable and livestock farming, and highlights that the ground was
51 stony. It was hypothesised that farmers would have the highest rates of EC and DJC in the
52 hip, knee and ankle due to the amount of walking over hilly (Fig. 1), rough and uneven
53 terrain. This was supported by both EC and DJC. However, while the DJC prevalences for the
54 hip and knee are relatively bilaterally symmetrical, the EC prevalences for the hip and ankle
55 are higher on the left side for all entheses recorded. The reason for this cannot be fully
56 explained, but may relate to differences in age between those with observable entheses on the
57 left (range 66 to 78 years, n=3) compared to the right (range 38 to 84, n=4) side. However,
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3 other factors, for example the use of walking sticks, may also be involved. Osteoarthritis of
4 the hip is common in farmers (Bremner *et al.*, 1968; Croft *et al.*, 1992; Ali-Gombe *et al.*
5 1996), particularly in those who have been farming for over a decade (Thelin, 1990; Croft *et al.*
6 1992), which at least six of the seven farmers had done (Table 1). However, the reason for
7 this is currently unknown, and while genetics are known to play a role in DJC and
8 osteoarthritis prevalence (Manek and Spector, 2003), it cannot be the sole explanation for
9 these findings.
10

11
12 The skilled workers are a small sample comprising two tailors and one stonemason. However,
13 we do know something about the life of the stonemason (Harker, 1988). He acted as the local
14 registrar and his favourite pursuit was shooting game, both activities that required a lot of
15 walking. His son's life is well documented and he helped with the harvest, butchered and
16 salted pigs, engaged in trade, and kept some livestock. This indicates that, in this rural
17 community, there was an overlap between occupation and farming tasks and that the latter are
18 underestimated in the census records (Higgs, 1995). This is further supported by the change
19 in occupation of one of the tailors, Richard Gill, who went from being a tailor to being a
20 farmer (Table 1). Due to the limited sample size for this occupation category, no trends can be
21 highlighted. However, the good preservation of the elbow highlights that the tailors have
22 more EC and DJC on the right than the left side for all entheses and joints.
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26 The effect of occupational mobility on both EC and DJC is likely to be age-related, as the
27 highest prevalences are generally in the older, occupationally mobile category. The increased
28 age in this category is an effect of including retirement in this category. However, while this
29 study is small, it does highlight the fact that, even in rural communities, people changed
30 occupation. For females, mobility occurred following marriage when they moved from an
31 occupation to being a wife. Whether these women continued taking on paid employment is
32 not known and is obscured as females were categorised by their husband's occupation in the
33 census (Higgs, 1987). For males the transition was primarily from a skilled job into farming,
34 or from farming to retirement. However, the diary also highlights that this distinction is
35 overly simplistic and that overlapping occupations existed. It is possible that some of the EC
36 and DJC may be caused by a change in their regular tasks. This can only be tested in a larger
37 sample. The most important aspect of this research is that it highlights problems of
38 categorising individuals who have changed occupation. Other studies have demonstrated that
39 occupational categorisation affects EC prevalence (Alves Cardoso and Henderson, 2012).
40 Therefore, understanding the prevalence of occupational mobility through time is vital for the
41 interpretation of EC in relation to occupation.
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45 **Conclusions**

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47 It is clear from this study, based on census records and the contemporaneous diary, that
48 occupation on the probate index is not fully reflective of the occupation of many individuals.
49 This has implications for all studies which have used identified collections to test and develop
50 methods for recording EC and DJC (Mariotti *et al.*, 2004; Villotte, 2006; Cardoso, 2009;
51 Alves Cardoso and Henderson, 2010; Henderson *et al.*, 2012; Milella, *et al.*, 2012). In
52 addition, males and females may have experienced different occupational trajectories over
53 their life course and this should be considered when interpreting sex-related differences in EC
54 and DJC frequencies. While females may be largely invisible in the historical record, the
55 skeletal remains can help to provide valuable supplementary data concerning their lives.
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Further research is required utilising the full extent of the historical records. Gaps in the census records need to be filled and additional data on occupation could be gleaned from marriage and birth certificates. Studying the original volumes of John Dickinson's diary may contribute further information on the range of tasks carried out by his parents, himself and his contemporaries. Improved understanding of the historical data could illuminate everyday life in this community, including work-related injury, and be used to help interpret EC and DJC.

Additional research is required to study the effect of genetics in this population on EC and DJC, as well as to contextualise this data through comparison with other identified collections. Most importantly occupational mobility must be studied in a larger sample to examine how common this was in the past and test its effect on EC and DJC. Due to limited sample size, this study compared the prevalence of EC and DJC only between those who were occupationally mobile and those who were not and there is a clear age bias between these groups. However, future studies should classify individuals based on their first, longest and final occupation, to study the effect of early occupation, the duration of occupation, and the impact of changing occupation. It is clear that the skeleton does not provide a snapshot of an individual at death, instead the total life course is important and this has to be considered when performing any skeletal analysis.

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Tables:

Table 1. Summary Skeletal and Historical Data.

No.	Confidence of identification	Method of identification	Name	Sex	Age	Date of death	Occupation: 1841	Occupation: 1851	Occupation: 1861	Occupation: 1871	Occupation: 1881	Occupation: 1891	Occupation at probate	Occupation - standardised	Occupational mobility
238	100%	Coffin plate + burial register	Elizabeth Demaine	female	49	Apr, 1888	(none given)	farmer's daughter	farmer's daughter	farmer's wife	farmer's wife			female	0
300	90%	Monument	Mary Darnbrook	female	78	7th Sept, 1870	farmer's wife	farmer's wife 150 acres	retired farmer's wife					female	1
310	100%	Coffin plate	Mary Dickinson	female	66	6th Mar, 1888	female servant (none given)	dressmaker	stone mason wife		(none given)			female	1
319	90%	Monument	Sarah Darnbrook	female	23	26th May, 1854	(none given)	farmer's daughter						female	0
325	100%	Coffin plate	Grace Hutton	female	73	3rd Apr, 1921		farmer's daughter	scholar	(none given)	Tailor & draper's wife	(none given)		female	0
363	100%	Coffin plate	Sarah Gill	female	54	13th Nov, 1889	(none given)	house servant	house servant	general serv-ant (domestic)	general serv-ant (domestic)			female	0
378	100%	Coffin plate	Eliza Wigglesworth	female	34	27th Feb, 1895			(none given)	scholar	farmer's daughter	(none given)		female	0
119	100%	Coffin plate	Matthew Marjerrison	male	38	25th Feb, 1890			scholar	farmer's son	farmer of 53 acres			farmer	0
130	100%	Coffin plate	George Lister	male	66	19 Jul, 1882	(none given)	farmer	farmer of 31 acres	farmer of 56 acres employ- ing 2 men	farmer of 171 acres		farmer	farmer	0

138B	90%	Partly legible monument	James Dibb	male	79	17th Mar, 1890	jobber	farmer	farmer of 48 acres	farmer of 48 acres	farmer of 48 acres	farmer	farmer	0
339	100%	Coffin plate	Richard Gill	male	41	11th Feb, 1884		scholar	taylor	taylor	Taylor & draper	taylor and draper	skilled worker	0
351	100%	Monument	John Dickinson	male	63	18th Aug, 1875	(none given)	(none given)	stone mason	stone mason master		stonemason	skilled worker	0
226	100%	Coffin plate	David Lister	male	84	16th Apr, 1888	farmer	retired from trade	landed proprietor	retired farmer	land owner	farmer		1
307	90%	Monument	Joseph Darnbrook	male	78	7th Mar, 1869	farmer	Farmer 44 acres	retired farmer			yeoman	farmer	1
360	100%	Coffin plate	Gill Wigglesworth	male	67	24th Apr, 1886	male servant	farm servant	farmer	farmer of 50 acres	farmer of 34 acres	farmer	farmer	1
366	100%	Coffin plate	John Renton Newsome	male	76	3rd Feb, 1892	either butter factor or male servant	(none given)	farmer of 23 acres	farmer of 24 acres	farmer of 20 acres	retired farmer	farmer	1
408	100%	Coffin plate	Richard Gill	male	78	18th May, 1883	taylor	taylor employing 3 assistants	taylor and farmer 11 acres	taylor employing 2 sons and farmer of 11 acres	Farmer 46 acres	gentleman	skilled worker	1
342	100%	Coffin plate	Bentley Darnbrook	male	26	1st Nov, 1862	(none given)	grocer (apprentice)	farm labourer			unskilled worker		1

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Side	Primary joint	Muscle	Female		Farmers		Skilled workers	
			n	freq	n	freq	n	freq
Right	Shoulder	Supraspinatus	2	0.00	2	0.50	1	0.00
		Infraspinatus	2	0.00	1	0.00	0	
		Teres Minor	1	0.00	1	0.00	0	
		Subscapularis	3	0.33	2	1.00	2	0.50
	Elbow	Anconeus	2	1.00	5	0.00	0	
		Biceps b.	3	0.67	5	0.60	2	0.50
		Brachialis	5	0.40	5	1.00	1	1.00
		Triceps b.	3	0.67	3	1.00	3	1.00
	Hand/wrist	Common extensor	1	1.00	3	0.67	0	
		Common flexor	2	0.50	5	0.20	0	
	Hip	Semimembranosus	3	0.33	2	0.50	2	0.50
		Gluteus min.	2	0.50	3	0.00	2	0.00
		Gluteus med.	0		2	0.50	1	0.00
	Ankle	Iliopsoas	1	0.00	3	0.67	0	
Triceps surae		2	0.50	3	0.67	1	1.00	
Left	Shoulder	Supraspinatus	0		1	0.00	0	
		Infraspinatus	0		1	0.00	0	
		Teres Minor	1	0.00	1	0.00	0	
		Subscapularis	2	0.50	1	1.00	0	
	Elbow	Anconeus	1	0.00	3	0.00	1	0.00
		Biceps b.	5	0.40	5	1.00	1	0.00
		Brachialis	5	0.40	5	0.80	2	0.00
		Triceps b.	1	1.00	3	0.00	3	0.67
	Hand/wrist	Common extensor	2	0.50	3	0.67	1	0.00
		Common flexor	1	1.00	2	0.50	1	0.00
	Hip	Semimembranosus	1	1.00	3	1.00	1	0.00
		Gluteus min.	1	0.00	2	1.00	1	1.00
		Gluteus med.	0		2	1.00	0	
	Ankle	Iliopsoas	2	0.00	4	1.00	0	
Triceps surae		2	0.50	4	1.00	1	1.00	

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Table 3. Frequency of tasks mentioned by John Dickinson based on the number of days included in Harker's selection. NB 1889 has had the 10 days of honeymoon removed.

	Clerical work	Mason	Gardening	Handling livestock	Hay making etc.	Digging out stone from a field	Fetchd water for mother	Butchery (hanging pigs, salting pigs)	Jobbing about	Joinery	Shovelling gravel	Trade	Walked	Drove	Rode	Swam
1878	8/45	16/45	1/45	0	0	0	0	0	0	1/45	0	2/45	8/45	0	2/45	0
1879	2/37	2/37	1/37	3/37	3/37	1/37	0	1/37	2/37	0	0	3/37	3/37	0	2/37	0
1881	7/59	2/59	0	10/59	1/59	0	1/59	2/59	2/59	0	0	5/59	7/59	0	0	1/59
		01/03/2														
1884	4/21	1	0	2/21	0	0	0	0	1/21	1/21	0	2/21	5/21	0	0	0
1889	3/38	1/38	0	0	1/38	0	0	1/38	1/38	1/38	0	2/38	4/38	0	0	0
1891	11/46	4/46	0	1/46	2/46	0	0	3/46	0	0	0	2/46	0	7/46	3/46	0
1892	3/26	1/26	0	4/26	4/26	0	0	2/26	0	0	1/26	3/26	1/26	3/26	0	0
1893	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1897	4/47	0	1/47	2/47	2/47	0	0	0	1/47	0	0	3/47	1/47	2/47	0	0

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			n	freq	n	freq	n	freq
Right	Shoulder	Supraspinatus	1	0.00	1	1.00	2	0.00
		Infraspinatus	1	0.00	1	1.00	1	0.00
		Teres Minor	1	0.00	0	1.00	1	0.00
		Subscapularis	1	1.00	2	0.00	2	0.50
	Elbow	Anconeus	2	1.00	0	2.00	3	0.00
		Biceps b.	2	1.00	1	0.00	4	0.75
		Brachialis	2	0.50	3	0.33	4	1.00
		Triceps b.	2	1.00	1	0.00	2	1.00
	Hand/wrist	Common extensor	1	1.00	0	1.00	2	0.50
		Common flexor	2	0.50	0	3.00	2	0.00
	Hip	Semimembranosus	2	0.50	1	0.00	2	0.50
		Gluteus min.	0	2.00	0.50	2.00	3.00	0.00
		Gluteus med.	0	0.00	1.00	2.00	0.00	0.00
		Iliopsoas	0	1.00	0.00	2.00	1.00	0.00
	Ankle	Triceps surae	1	1.00	1	0.00	2	0.50
Left	Shoulder	Supraspinatus	0	0.00	0	1.00	1	0.00
		Infraspinatus	0	0.00	0	1.00	1	0.00
		Teres Minor	0	1.00	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.00
		Subscapularis	0	2.00	0.50	0.00	1.00	1.00
	Elbow	Anconeus	1	0.00	0	1.00	3	0.00
		Biceps b.	2	1.00	3	0.00	3	1.00
		Brachialis	2	0.50	3	0.33	4	0.50
		Triceps b.	1	1.00	0	3.00	3	0.00
	Hand/wrist	Common extensor	1	1.00	1	0.00	3	0.33
		Common flexor	1	1.00	0	1.00	2	0.50
	Hip	Semimembranosus	1	1.00	0	2.00	2	0.50
		Gluteus min.	1	0.00	0	1.00	2	1.00
		Gluteus med.	0	0.00	0	2.00	1.00	1.00
		Iliopsoas	1	0.00	1	0.00	2	1.00
	Ankle	Triceps surae	1	1.00	1	0.00	3	1.00

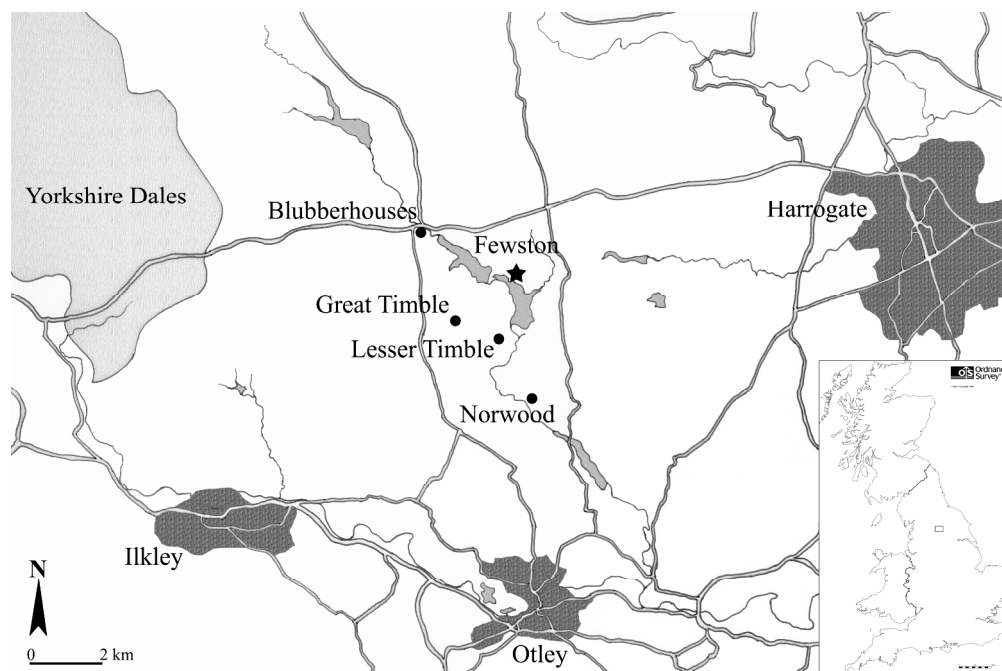
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Figure 2: EC of the *triceps brachii* insertion. A. Example of EC, notably the formation of an exostosis, in SLF09 226. B. Normal enthesis SLF09 351

Figure 3: Examples of DJC such as marginal osteophytes, porosity and joint contour changes on: A. The acetabulum and head of the femur (SLF09 226). B. the elbow joint: distal humerus, proximal ulna and proximal radius (SLF09 130).

Figure 4. True prevalence of DJC by occupation compared to pooled EC frequency by joint. Sample size for DJC in figure A. Sample size for pooled EC in Table 2.

Figure 5. True prevalence of DJC by occupation mobility category compared to pooled EC frequency by joint. Sample size for DJC in figure A. Sample size for pooled EC in Table 4.



Map of site location (star), surrounding parish villages (closed circles) and nearby larger towns. Note the reservoirs near Fewston and proximity to the Yorkshire Dales, both indicating hilly terrain.
165x109mm (600 x 600 DPI)

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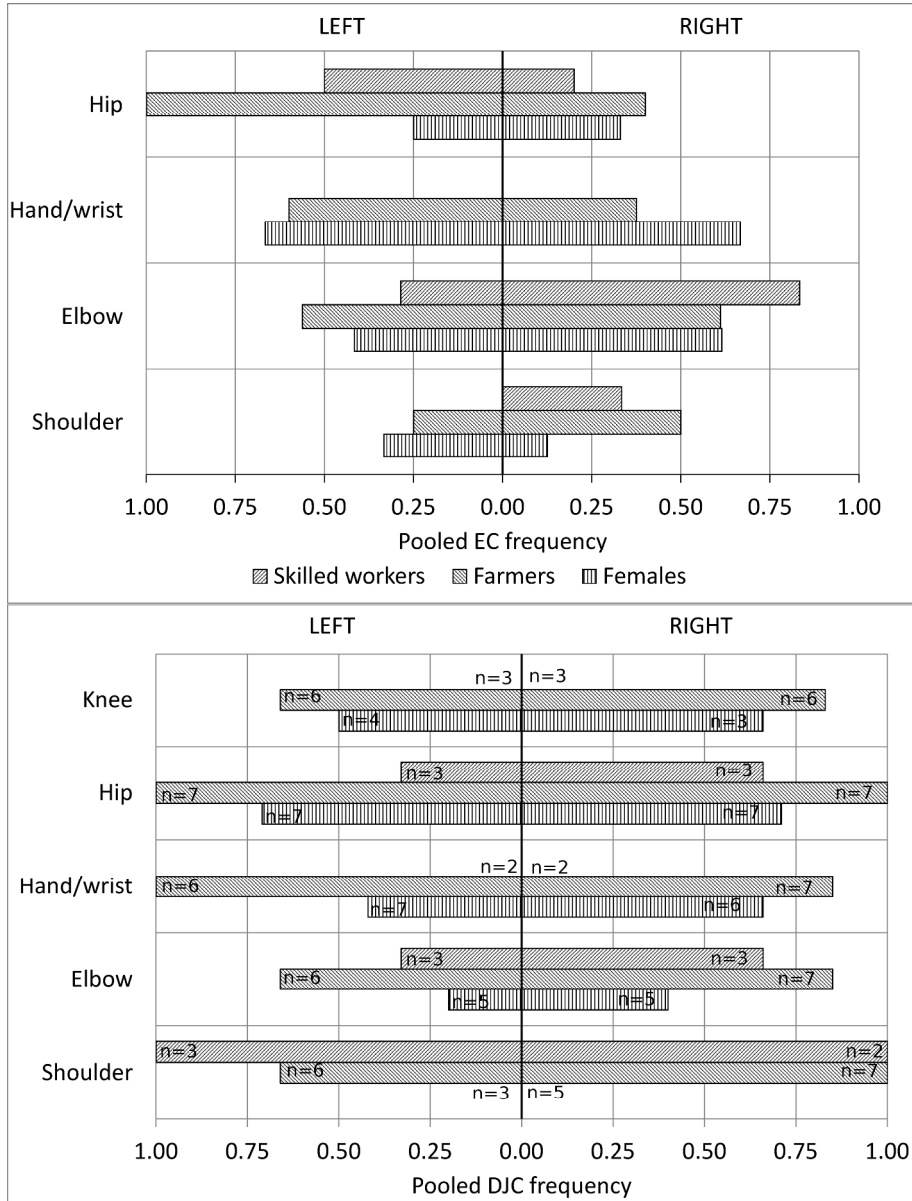


EC of the triceps brachii insertion. A. Example of EC, notably the formation of an exostosis, in SLF09 226.
B. Normal enthesis SLF09 351
282x239mm (300 x 300 DPI)

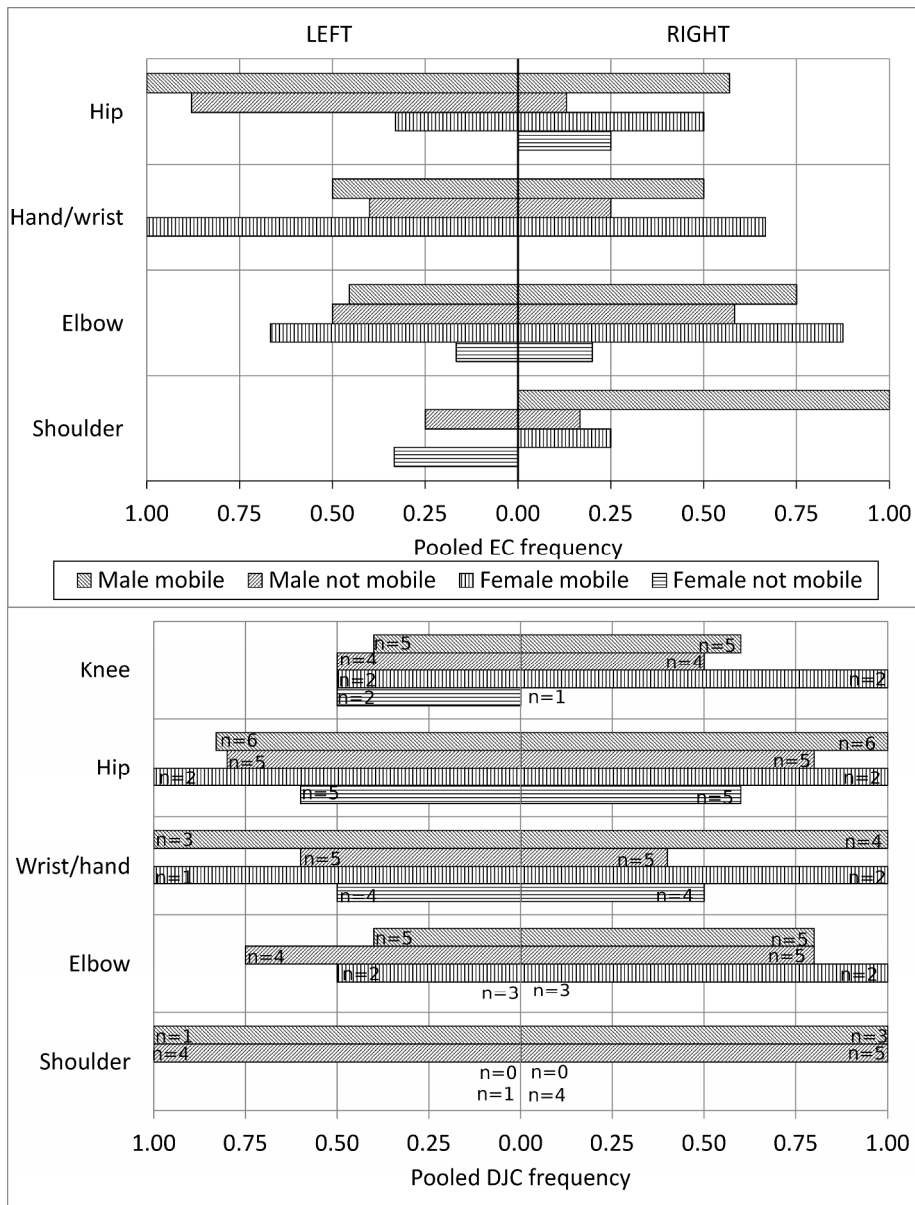
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Examples of DJC such as marginal osteophytes, porosity and joint contour changes on: A. The acetabulum and head of the femur (SLF09 226). B. the elbow joint: distal humerus, proximal ulna and proximal radius (SLF09 130).
338x435mm (300 x 300 DPI)



True prevalence of DJC by occupation compared to pooled EC frequency by joint. Sample size for DJC in figure A. Sample size for pooled EC in Table 2.
338x442mm (300 x 300 DPI)



True prevalence of DJC by occupation mobility category compared to pooled EC frequency by joint. Sample size for DJC in figure A. Sample size for pooled EC in Table 4.
338x441mm (300 x 300 DPI)