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HYPOTHESES

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**RESULTS & DISCUSSION** 

INDINGS

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## **MENTAL HEALTH IN REFERENCE TO LENGTH OF SERVICE AMONG MALES & FEMALES ACADEMICIANS**

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#### ABSTRACT

The present study has explored the "mental health in reference to length of service among males & females academicians". The study further tries to make an indepth investigation on mental health of academicians at the different academic institutions. The data was collected on 120 (60 males and 60 females) academicians. Subjects were selected from academic Institutions of Dehradun. Uttarakhand, India using Stratified Random Sampling technique. Employee's Mental Health Inventory (EMHI) administered on the same group of subjects to collect the data. The scale was designed and planned by Dr. Jagdish, consists of 24 items. The data was analyzed by SPSS software (version 17). The mean & F ratio results of the present study revealed a significant difference in mental health between both the genders. The study had also revealed that Length of service for more than 10 years and length of service for less than five years differ significantly from each other.

#### **KEYWORDS**

Gender difference, Length of Service and Mental Health.

### **MENTAL HEALTH**

ental Health Stress affects not only our physical wellbeing but our mental comfort, too. In recent years, clinical psychologists as well as educationalists have started giving proper attention to the study of mental health. Mental health connotates those behaviours, perceptions and feelings that determine a person's overall level of personal effectiveness, success, happiness, and excellence of functioning as a person (Kornhauser, 1965). Mentally healthy person is firm in his/her intentions and is least disturbed by strains and stresses of day to day life. The concept of mental health has taken 'Gestalt' view of individual. It incorporates the concepts of personality characteristics and behaviour all in one. It may also be understood as the behavioural characteristic of the person. A mentally healthy person shows a homogeneous organization of desirable attitudes, healthy values, and righteous selfconcept and a scientific perception of the world as a whole. The expression 'Mental Health' consists of two words 'Mental' and 'Health'. Mental health, therefore, may refer to a sound mental condition or a state of psychological well-being or freedom from mental diseases. It is said that a sound body determines a sound mind and a sound mind exists in sound body. The noun mental health has one meaning that the psychological state of someone who is functioning at a satisfactory level of emotional and behavioural adjustment (WordNet, 2009). Wikipedia Dictionary (2010) explains the meaning of mental health as a state of emotional and psychological well-being in which an individual is able to use his or her cognitive and emotional capabilities, function in society and meet the ordinary demands of everyday life. According to Longman's Dictionary of Psychology and Psychiatry (Goldenson, 1984), "Mental health is a state of mind characterised by emotional well- being, relative freedom from anxiety and disabling symptoms, and coping with ordinary demands and stresses of life". Generally mental status has two possibilities: either health or illness. Mental health is more than the absence of mental illness (World Health Organisation (WHO), 2006). Mental Health includes the ability to enjoy life, resilience, balance, flexibility, and self-actualization. Positive mental health consists of protection and development and satisfying human relationships and in the reduction of hostile tensions in persons and groups. Some psychologists considered mental health as absence of mental illness. Mental illness is any of various conditions characterized by impairment of an individual's normal cognitive, emotional, or behavioural functioning and caused by social, psychological, biochemical, genetic, or other factors, such as infection or head trauma. It is also called emotional illness, mental disease, and mental disorder. Some experts consider mental health as a continuum. Thus, an individual's mental health may have many different possible values.

### METHODOLOGY

#### AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The main objective of the study is to study mental health in reference to length of service among males & females academicians of Dehradun district. HYPOTHESES

H1: Males and females will differ significantly from each other Mental Health.

H2: Length of service for more than ten years and length of service for less than five years will differ significantly from each other on Mental Health. **TOOL USED** 

**Employee Mental Health Index (EMHI) Test** was used to measure mental health of academicians. The test was Constructed and standardized by Dr Jagdish. EMHI, assess mental health of employees working in any organization; it is useful in screening the employees with poor psychological wellbeing, who need help to their happier job and personal life. It measures the state of mental pleasure, overall well-being and lacking of psycho-physiological complaints.

Sample: The criteria for selection of the respondents for the study were the full time employed academicians in the academic institutions namely, Graphic Era University, selaQui Academy of Higher Education, SelaQui World School, Sri Guru Ram Rai Mission, MKP College, Uttaranchal University, & GRD Academy of Dehradun city. The total sample size was comprised of 120 academics (60 males and 60 females), who were selected by random sampling method from the selected academic institutions.

#### DESIGN

2×2 factorial design will be used where the length of service (Less than 5 years and more than 10 years) will matched with the levels of sexes (males & females). **PROCEDURE** 

Data was collected using stratified random sampling method. Data was collected on permanent employed academicians working at higher study centers based at Dehradun city, the respondents were contacted personally. The questionnaire consisting of 24 items were given to them to be filled in 5-10 minutes of time.

### RESULTS

Keeping in view the objectives of the present study, the obtained data were analyzed using Mean, SD's, F ratio testing. (Table No1) the obtained results are discussed as under:

1. Males and females will differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental Health: As it is evident from Table No 1 the first hypothesis was found to be true and correct. Males and females differ from each other on Mental Health. Study indicated that there existed positive and statistically significant difference of gender on occupational stress. A similar study by Manikandan, K (2012) concludes that sex and institution have significant & main interaction effects on certain components of occupational mental health but not in the case of total occupational mental health of teachers. Female teachers experience more job satisfaction than the male teachers. Some reviews that does not stand in line with "Males and females differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental Health" like Anita Chawla (2012) mental health in boys and girls of College students; and its relation to academic achievement, female students have better mental health than male students. High academic achievement corresponds to high mental health. Aujla et al. (2004) showed that working women were significantly more stressed due to psychological stressors than non-working women. The mental health inventory developed by Jagdish and Srivasta was employed to assess the mental health of the college teachers. Study revealed that male teacher exhibit significant better mental health than their female counterparts. Ojha and Rani (2004) examined the level of life stress and various dimensions of mental health among working and non-working Indian women. Working women were significantly scored higher on life stress in comparison to non -working women.

2: Length of service for more than 10 years and length of service for less than five years will differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental Health referring to (table No 20), the proposed hypothesis was found to be correct and we accept the hypothesis by confirming "Length of service for more than 10 years and length of service for less than five years will differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental. A study by Bhagawan (1997) revealed that higher the teaching experience, lesser the perceived burn out. Bhatia and Kumar (2005) studied on occupational stress and burn out in industrial employees. Their experience/length of service varied from 2-6 and 7-12 years. Industrial employees at supervisor rank and below supervisor rank with more experience of service had more occupational stress due to more feeling of depersonalization and more emotional exhaustion. Ryhal and Singh (1996) considered university academicians for their study. Results revealed that those with 26-35 years' experience had higher job stress than those with teaching experience of 16-25 years and 5-15 years. Those with 16-25 years' experience had higher job stress than those with teaching experience of 5-15 years and this effect their mental wellbeing.

## TABLE NO 1: TOTAL EMPLOYEE MENTAL HEALTH INDEX

Total Em	ployee Me	ental Healt	h Index
Males		Females	
(N=60)		(N=60)	
Mean	SD	Mean	SD
18.68	4.070	16.91	5.61
17.80			

The above table no 1 shows the total Mean and SD of Males and Females on Employee Mental Health Index. In observation of mean and SD values, males are found to have higher values incomparision to their female counterparts.

#### TABLE NO 2: COMPARISON OF MALES AND FEMALES ON LENGTH OF SERVICE

Length of Service	Length of Service					
Less than Five Years	Males		Females			
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
	18.4	3.52	15.13	6.33		
More than Ten Years	Males		Females			
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD		
	18.96	4.60	18.07	4.17		

In the above table No 2, it was observed that means value of males is higher than the mean value on females in Length of service for less than 5 years. It was also observed that means of males are again found to be higher than the mean value of females in Length of service for more than 10 years on EMHI.

### TABLE 3: ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE OF EMPLOYEE MENTAL HEALTH INDEX

ANOVA Summary for Employee Mental Health Index					
Source of Variation	SS	Df	MS	F	
Sex	93.63	1	93.63	4.11	
Length of Service (LS)	128.13	1	128.13	5.63	
Sex X LS	67.51	1	67.51	2.96	

The above table No 3 showed the calculated F value for sex which was found to be statistically significant on Employee Mental Health Index at 0.05 level. F value for length of service also appeared to be highly significant at 0.05 level. Whereas F value on interaction effect between sex and length of service was appeared to be statistically insignificant.

### CONCLUSION

The first proposed hypothesis was found to be correct and we accept the hypothesis by confirming that males and females will differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental Health.

The second proposed hypothesis was also found to be correct and we accepted the hypothesis by confirming "Length of service for more than 10 years and length of service for less than five years will differ significantly from each other on Employee Mental health.

## DELIMITATIONS

The study had following limitations:

- Academicians working in various institutions are from Dehradun city only.
- The sample size of the study was small to predict the very exact picture of occupational stress and mental health of the academicians.
- Scales used in the study had limited number of variables.

### SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

- The following suggestions were evolved from the present study for future researches
- Further research is needed with larger samples. This study was confined to Dehradun city. Similar study can be conducted taking a larger geographical area; at regional or state level.
- A similar study can also be conducted on other professionals.
- In depth research may be undertaken to identify "at the job" and "off the job" problems of academicians.
- This study was concerned with inter group gender differences. Similarly, a study may be designed with intra group comparisons.

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- The working conditions and workplace strategies may be studied in relation to mental health and stress.
- Future research may attempt to study mental health of family members and its impact on employees mental well -being.

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