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IMPACT OF JOB SATISFACTION ON THE LABOUR

Introduction. The healthcare sector, a cornerstone of society and the economy, brings together specialists from various fields and departments. As healthcare organisations grapple with similar human resource management and policy development challenges as other types of organisations, research on increasing job satisfaction, a key indicator of effective management and employee attitudes, becomes increasingly relevant.

PRODUCTIVITY OF HEALTHCARE PERSONNEL

Aim and tasks. This study aims to determine the level of satisfaction among those employed in the healthcare sector, particularly in Georgia, and to underscore its profound impact on performance.

Results. Findings revealed that various factors affect job satisfaction and, consequently, the quality of service provided. Using the F test, it was found that there is a significant statistical relationship between education (0.01 level (p < 0.001, F = 9.992)), work experience (0.01 level (p < 0.001, F = 9.299)), age (0.01 level (P<0.001, F= 9.164)) and job satisfaction and quality of service. Also, the research results showed that 70% of the respondents believe job satisfaction enhances their performance. Specialized expertise, knowledge, and an appropriate strategy are required to manage these professionals. It is highly significant and essential for employees to have constant development opportunities, access to professional training, and work in a high-satisfaction environment.

Conclusions. That is critically important for improving performance in healthcare and any organization. However, it is worth mentioning this sector faces stress, high mental load, and burnout. In order to address these issues, organizations should have their own clear policy, properly distribute roles and resources, involve employees in processes from the start, and provide relevant information. Hinged on the previously conducted research, opportunities for personnel development and training are limited in Georgia, which in turn is leading to a shortage of qualified personnel and high staff turnover. The recommendations presented will help managers of organizations analyse the importance of job satisfaction in the growth of productivity and success of the organization and its constituent indicators and develop an appropriate strategy for their improvement in the future.

Keywords: employee development, motivation, organizational climate, job satisfaction, productivity.

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1. Introduction.

The healthcare sector is one of the most competitive and rapidly growing sectors in the modern world, and its effectiveness and importance have been mainly reflected by the COVID-19 pandemic. At this time, the need for a close relationship between this sector and the state was highlighted most clearly, as well as its importance in maintaining stability. Moreover, as Georgia's healthcare sector is vital for assessing public welfare and making a significant economic contribution, it faces many obstacles and problems.

The increased funding during the pandemic was, of course, but there were still problems regarding staff remuneration and the allocation of insufficient resources by the state. Regardless of these problems, the healthcare sector is an attractive and popular field, as evidenced by the number of workers in the country.

Healthcare organisations face almost the same challenges in terms of human resource management and general policy development as other types of organisations. However, it is worth noting that this industry is characterised by higher stress levels and burnout. This has significantly increased during the COVID-19 pandemic due to increased workloads, constant tension, and uncertainty. The results of a number of studies, such as Prasada et al. (2021) study among US nurses and Pappa et al.'s (2021) study among Greek health sector workers highlight these challenges. Accordingly, the organisation's goal should be to create a working environment that will not create additional stressors for employees, allow them to have a balanced life, and enable them to reveal and develop their skills. This will ultimately increase job satisfaction, one of the main indicators for evaluating effective management and employee attitudes.

Prioritising and focusing on employee satisfaction is necessary because of its direct impact on staff turnover, motivation, and productivity. High levels of employee well-being can contribute to increased engagement and productivity (Warr & Nielsen, 2018). In turn, increasing employee satisfaction and productivity is only possible if a healthy work environment and positive organisational climate are created at the managerial level (Van den Heuvel et al., 2010).

Considering this, the level of job satisfaction of people employed in the health sector of Georgia was investigated. The impact of various factors on job satisfaction and the quality of service provided were considered. In addition, the influence of an organisation's internal organisational policy and its involvement in public welfare activities and reputation on satisfaction was investigated.

2. Literature review.

Research to determine the relationship between labour productivity and satisfaction began in the first half of the twentieth century and is still relevant. During this period, several connections and views were formed and highlighted regarding the mutual influence of these two variables (Judge et al., 2001).

Recognising health the sector's contribution to public welfare is crucial (Kuzey, 2018). Employee turnover in this industry can be caused by low job satisfaction, which also has a detrimental effect on individual and organisational productivity and patient satisfaction (Salvatore et al., 2018). From a commercial perspective, improving hospital service quality (Lim et al., 2018) is highly significant for raising profits and gaining a competitive advantage, wherein effective human resources management plays a key role.

The research by Berberoglu (2018) direct relationship between highlights а organisational climate and performance. Wang et al. (2022) also proved that the relationship between satisfaction, customer service, and performance is positive. However, it's important to note that burnout has a negative effect on these variables. Kuzey (2018) investigated job satisfaction indicators and the impact of each factor on performance. The research determined that the attitude of the managers and the reward system have the most impact on performance out of the 4 indicators. Abdullah et al. (2021) researched internal service quality that affects nurses' job satisfaction. Another indicator is staff turnover, which is kept low, increasing employee motivation and performance. Rostami et al. (2021) and De Simone et al. (2018) consider that the mental workload among people employed in the medical sector is high, which can be reduced by the correct distribution of roles and related responsibilities.

While Gray et al. (2018) examine mental health concerning the organisation's overall success, and their findings show a positive relationship between the two variables.

As mentioned, one of the main factors contributing to job satisfaction is effective management, proper assignment of roles and tasks, and fair and consistent attitudes from managers, all of which can enhance employee satisfaction and performance. The right policies selected by top managers can improve employee engagement and communication across all levels (Vainieri et al., 2019).

Curado and Santos (2022) investigated the influence of transformational leadership on performance and figured out that job satisfaction is a crucial part of improving the interaction between these two variables, which leads employees to be more creative.

Specchia et al. (2020) investigated the connection between leadership style and worker job satisfaction in the healthcare industry and found that, among other types, transformational leadership positively influences contentment.

Tamer (2021) emphasised the importance of moral leadership and how it enhances organisational competitiveness, employee loyalty, and drive.

Recent Georgian labour market studies reveal that employees face numerous problems and challenges. Among Paresashvili et al. (2021), discrimination in different Georgia sectors occurs. Furthermore, discrimination is manifested in the career development and employment of women in high positions, which worsens the shortage of professional personnel (Pirtskhalaishvili et al., 2021).

The healthcare sector significantly contributes to Georgia's economy and needs a more comprehensive study of employee satisfaction, productivity, and overall human resource management.

According to Koblianidze et al. (2018), staff in this field need assistance accessing professional development opportunities, leading to high turnover and recruitment problems. It is important to note that many staff received their education in the Soviet Union, which may not meet modern requirements (Gamkrelidze et al., 2002).

3. Methodology.

In order to gauge and investigate the factors influencing job satisfaction among healthcare system personnel, a database derived from questionnaire responses provided by 452 participants was utilised and analysed using the statistical software SPSS. Frequent distributions, summary descriptive statistics, contingency and cross-tabulation tables, dispersion analysis, and graphical analysis were employed for data analysis. This study investigated the awareness and responsibility of healthcare system personnel from various perspectives. In addition, the role of job satisfaction was investigated in terms of the quality of the services they provide, considering various influencing factors. The key determinants of job satisfaction as the primary drivers of service quality across different demographic groups are comprehensively discussed. For this purpose, the following hypotheses were formulated and tested:

H1: The level of education is directly related to the level of awareness and responsibility regarding the work performed in the healthcare system.

H2: The education of healthcare system personnel affects their perception of the relationship between job satisfaction and the quality of services provided.

H3: The length of work experience significantly affects the direct relationship between staff job satisfaction and the quality of services they provide.

H4: Age significantly determines the relationship between the job satisfaction of healthcare personnel and the quality of services they provide.

H5: Among male and female respondents employed in the healthcare system, notable trends exist regarding their job satisfaction and the quality of services they provide.

H6: Job satisfaction is the primary driver of high-quality service among healthcare system personnel.

H7: The level of income significantly affects the job satisfaction of healthcare personnel.

H8: Employee job satisfaction is determined by the company's reputation and its contribution to the welfare of society.

H9: The company's potential contribution to society's well-being significantly impacts employee job satisfaction.

4. Results.

4.1. Hypothesis testing.

The level of education is directly related to the level of awareness and responsibility regarding the work performed in the healthcare system. To comprehend and gauge the way how respondents, perceive and prioritize work in the healthcare sector, refer to Figure 1, which illustrates these perceptions and their perceived significance.



Figure 1. Attitude of healthcare workers toward their work responsibilities. *Source: authors' findings.*

A 5-point scale assessment was utilised to measure the importance of working and serving to improve people's health. A score of 1 indicates "not at all important", 2 denotes "not important", 3 represents "neutral", 4 signifies "significant" and 5 means "extremely significant". As shown in the diagram, only 2.3% of the respondents considered this issue unimportant (0.8% rated it as "completely unimportant" and 1.5% as "unimportant"). In contrast, a substantial majority (77.9%) recognised the critical importance of this issue, assigning it the highest rating of five, while a significant proportion (19.8%) rated it as four.

The impact of education on the awareness and responsibility of personnel employed in the healthcare system concerning their work was examined using a One-Way ANOVA. This method allows for assessing the relationship between a quantitative variable and a nominal or ordinal variable across different categories.

A significant statistical relationship between education and the dependent variable is indicated by the results of Levene's test for equality of variances, presented in Table 1, with a p-value of less than 0.001, demonstrating a high level of statistical significance at the 0.01 level.

Table 1. Test of Homogeneity of Variances

q1 The importance of working and serving to improve human health						
Levene Statistic	df1 df2 Sig.					
53.046	3	448	.000			

Source: authors' findings.

The dispersion analysis Table 2 reveals a significant statistical relationship between the groups at the 0.01 level, with a p-value less than

0.001. Additionally, the F-statistic is notably high, at 51.648, indicating a strong relationship.

q1 The importance of working and serving to improve human health					
Sum of Squares df Mean Square F Sig.					
Between Groups	36.546	3	12.182	51.648	.000
Within Groups	105.668	448	.236		
Total 142.214 451					

Table 2. ANOVA.

Source: authors' findings.

In line with the significant statistical relationship, there was a directly proportional linear relationship between the variables. This in return implies the positive association between the level of education and the level of awareness and responsibility for the work performed in the healthcare system. This conclusion is supported by the results of the Spearman's correlation test, as detailed in Table 3.

			q1 the importance of working and serving to improve human health	q36 education
Spearma n's rho	q1 the importance of working and serving to improve human health	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	.123*
		Sig. (2-tailed)		.015
		Ν	393	393
	q36 education	Correlation Coefficient	.123*	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.015	
		Ν	393	393

Table 3. Correlations.

Source: authors' findings.

Spearman's test established a weak positive linear relationship (r = 0.123) between the variables. This supports the confirmation of Hypothesis H1: The level of education is directly related to the level of awareness and responsibility regarding the work performed in the healthcare system. To test hypotheses H2, H3, H4, and H5, a multifactorial dispersion analysis (Univariate Analysis of Variance) was employed. This evaluates the influence of multiple ordinal-nominal variables on one dependent variable. Education, work experience, age, and gender were independent variables in

the analysis, while the quality of service provided, assessed on a 5-point scale, was the dependent variable. The scaled from 1 ("not at all important") to 5 ("extremely significant").

Table 4 displays the results of the homogeneity of variance test based on the analysis of dispersion tables. It is established that all four factors – education, work experience, age, and gender – jointly influence the variable "How much does your job satisfaction affect the quality of service provided?" with very high reliability at the 0.01 level of statistical significance (p < 0.001).

Table 4. Levene's Test of Equality of Error Variances.

Dependent Variable: q32 To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of service you provide?					
F	df1	df2	Sig.		
8.488	41	351	.000		

Source: authors' findings.

Tables 5, 6, 7, and 8 illustrate the evaluation of the influence of individual factors – education, work experience, age, and gender –on the dependent variable. Table 5 indicates a significant statistical relationship between education and the dependent variable at the 0.01 level (p < 0.001, F = 9.992), with an average correlation dependence, and effect size (Eta = 0.079).

Table 5. Univariate Tests.

Dependent Variable: q32 to what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of service you provide?						
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Contrast	23.202	3	7.734	9.992	.000	.079
Error	271.687	351	.774			

Source: author's findings.

The F tests the effect of education. This test is based on the linearly independent pairwise comparisons among the estimated marginal means. Table 6 demonstrates a

significant statistical relationship between work experience and the dependent variable at the 0.01 level (p < 0.001, F = 9.299), with a moderate effect size (Eta = 0.096).

Table 6. Univariate Tests.

Dependent Variable: q32 to what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of service you provide?						
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Contrast	28.790	4	7.198	9.299	.000	.096
Error	271.687	351	.774			
G	1 10 1					

Source: authors' findings.

The F tests the effect of experience. This test is based on the linearly independent pairwise comparisons among the estimated marginal means. Table 7 shows that there is also

a significant statistical relationship between the age variable and the dependent variable at the 0.01 level (P<0.001. F=9.164), with an average correlation dependence, effect size=0.095).

Dependent Variable: q32 to what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of service you provide?						
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Contrast	28.372	4	7.093	9.164	.000	.095
Error	271.687	351	.774			

Source: authors' findings.

The F tests for the effect of age. This test is based on linearly independent pairwise comparisons among the estimated marginal means.

Table 8 clearly indicates that there is no statistical relationship between gender and the dependent variable.

The level of statistical significance was p = 0.672, which was greater than the threshold of 0.05. The results showed no significant difference between male and female respondents regarding the connection between job contentment and the quality of the service provided. As a result, H5 was not confirmed.

Dependent ' provide?	Variable: q_32 to	what extent	does your job sa	atisfaction aff	fect the qual	ity of service you
	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.	Partial Eta Squared
Contrast	.138	1	.138	.180	.672	.001
Error	269.012	351	.766			

Table 8. Univariate Tests.

Source: authors' findings.

The F tests the effect of gender. This test is based on the linearly independent pairwise comparisons among the estimated marginal means. Figure 2 obtained from the dispersion analysis, illustrates the joint dependence of the observed and residual results on the variable "To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the services you provide?"

Figure 2 demonstrates that the combined effect of all four factors – education, work experience, age, and gender – shows a positive

trend. This indicated a proportional relationship between the observed and expected results. Collectively, these factors contribute to improving the quality of services provided in the healthcare sector.

Dependent Variable: to what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the service you provide?

Figures 3, 4, 5, and 6 show the relationship of a separate factor with the dependent variable.



Figure 2. Relationship between service quality and job satisfaction considering 4 factors. *Source: authors' findings.*



Figure 3. Job satisfaction caused by the quality of service provided, considering the education.

Source: authors' findings.

As can be seen from Figure 3, the level of satisfaction of the staff with an academic service provided is most affected by the job degree.



Figure 4. Job satisfaction caused by the quality of service provided, considering the working experience.

Source: authors' findings.

Based on Figure 4, the impact of job satisfaction on service quality varies with work experience. The highest proportion of respondents who report that job satisfaction significantly affects service quality are those with 1-3 years of work experience (90%). This is followed by respondents with 6-10 years of work experience (78.8%), those with more

than 10 years of experience (64.7%), and, finally, those with 4-5 years of experience (61.1%). Figure 5 reveals that the highest proportion of respondents who believe job satisfaction affects the quality of their services are those aged 46-55 (77.3%). This is followed by respondents aged 18-35 (71%) and those aged 36-45 (64.3%).





Source: authors' findings.

Figure 6 illustrates the relationship between gender and the variable "To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the service you provide?" As noted during hypothesis testing, this figure confirms

that both male and female respondents exhibit similar tendencies. A large majority of respondents from both genders (up to 70%) report that job satisfaction significantly impacts the quality of their services.





Crosstabulation and the chi-square test was employed to evaluate the following hypothesis: H6: The primary driver of highquality service among healthcare system personnel is their job satisfaction. Table 9 presents the crosstabulation of job satisfaction with the variable -q32: To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the services you provide?

		q32 To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the services you provide? (Row N%)			
		Does not affect	Neutral	Affects	
q11 Are you satisfied	yes	10%	21%	69%	
assigned to you in	no	30%	20%	50%	
your position?	Cannot answer	4.8%	14.3%	81%	

 Table 9. Crosstabulation: Job satisfaction quality of provided services.

Source: authors' findings.

Of the unequivocal responses (yes or no), among those who are satisfied with their given authority, 60 per cent, the majority, report that their job contentment positively affects the quality of the services they provide. Table 10 presents the results of the chi-square tests conducted on the same data. The test indicates a significant statistical relationship between the variables at the 0.01 level (p = 0.01). This confirms the validity of Hypothesis H6, which states that job satisfaction is the primary driver of high-quality service performance among staff members.

Table 10. Pearson Chi-Square Tests.

		q32 To what extent does your job satisfaction affect the quality of the services you provide?
q11 Are you satisfied with	Chi-square	19.268
the authority assigned to	df	4
you in your position?	Sig.	.001 ^{*,b}

Source: authors' findings.



Figure 7. Relationship between job satisfaction and income level. Source: authors' findings.

As observed, higher levels of satisfaction (indicated by the "yes" category) correspond to a more significant impact on the quality of the service provided. The Kruskal-Wallis test was utilized to test hypothesis H7: The level of income significantly affects the job satisfaction of healthcare system personnel, which is analogous to a one-way analysis of variance.

Table 11 presents the average ranks for each income category, as determined by the Kruskal-Wallis test.

Table	11.	Ranks.

	q38 monthly income (in Georgian Lari)	Ν	Mean Rank
q11 Are you satisfied with the	1 <1000	108	221.71
authority assigned to you in	2 1000-2000	150	188.15
your position?	3 2001-3000	54	162.25
	4 3000+	81	203.61
	Total	393	

Source: authors' findings.

Table 12 shows the results of the chisquare test, from which it is determined that job satisfaction has a significant statistical relationship at the 0.01 level with the level of income (p does not exceed 0.001, the chi-square coefficient is equal to 20.610). Therefore, hypothesis is confirmed. According to Figure 8, the majority of positive responses to the job satisfaction of the staff were recorded only in the case of the 2001-3000 and more than 3000 GEL groups.

Table	12.	Test	Stat	istics
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	q11 Are you satisfied with the authority assigned to you in your position?
Chi-Square	20.610
df	3
Asymp. Sig.	.000

a. Kruskal Wallis Test.

b. Grouping Variable: q38 monthly income (in Georgian Lari). *Source: authors' findings.*





Hypotheses H8 and H9 were tested using a consumer crosstabulation Table 13 and a chisquare test (Table 14). The crosstabulation table found that perceptions of the company's reputation and image and the belief that the company contributes to societal welfare have a very high reliability influence on staff job satisfaction. Those who value the company's reputation and societal contributions are significantly more satisfied with the authority associated with their positions compared to other categories. The chi-square test results, presented in Table 14, clearly demonstrate, with very high reliability (0.01), that both independent variables are statistically related to staff job satisfaction. Hypotheses H8 and H9 are also confirmed.

Table 13. Job satisfaction by company traditions and by potential to contribute to the welfar	e
of society.	

		q11 Are you satisfied with the authority assigned to you in your position?			
			yes	no	Cannot answer
q29 Are there company traditions or events that you enjoy?	yes	Count	290	7	28
		Row N %	89.4%	2.1%	8.5%
	no	Count	17	17	14
		Row N %	35.7%	35.7%	28.6%
	cannot answer	Count	38	10	31
		Row N %	47.8%	13.0%	39.1%
q30 Do you think the company has the potential to contribute to the welfare of society?	yes	Count	311	24	55
		Row N %	79.6%	6.2%	14.2%
	no	Count	7	7	3
		Row N %	40.0%	40.0%	20.0%
	cannot	Count	28	3	14
	answer	Row N %	61.5%	7.7%	30.8%

Source: authors' findings.

		q11 Are you satisfied with the authority assigned to you in your position?
q29 Are there company traditions or	Chi-square	133.275
events that you enjoy?	df	4
	Sig.	$.000^{*,b}$
q30 Do you think the company has the	Chi-square	38.477
potential to contribute to the welfare of	df	4
society?	Sig.	$.000^{*,b,c}$

Table 14. Pearson Chi-Square Tests.

Source: authors' findings.

According to the chi-square coefficient, the factor related to the company's reputation and image shows a more substantial influence (r = 133.275). The factor contributing to societal welfare has a chi-square value of r = 38.477.

In both cases, p-values were less than 0.001. Figure 9 clearly illustrates the relationships between the factors and the dependent variable.



Figure 9. Employees' attitude towards company traditions.

Source: author's findings.

5. Conclusions.

To maintain the overall well-being of the country's healthcare sector, bringing together experts and professionals from various fields is crucial. Similarly, healthcare organisations must efficiently accomplish and gain a competitive edge and position in the market, which is impossible without proper human resources management. Among the vast range of characteristics which allow the evaluation of management and its approaches, job satisfaction is a crucial indicator closely employee linked performance. to Performance, in turn, directly influences the quality of services provided and, in general, impacts the organisation's overall success.

The research results show that content employees are crucial to providing highquality services and increasing customer satisfaction. For every gender, job satisfaction is influenced by factors such as age, work experience, and income; however, it is worth mentioning that higher levels of these factors do not always lead to higher job satisfaction. Therefore, managers should consider that increasing salaries or work experience may not constantly improve job satisfaction.

Managers need to develop different strategies and consistently gauge their current state. Education is another factor that affects satisfaction and contributes to improved service quality and staff responsibility. This leads to the conclusion that organisations should prioritise increasing staff education levels and promoting continuous learning.

Every organisation is responsible for actively participating in and contributing to promoting public welfare and related activities. This is especially crucial for organisations operating in the health sector, as they directly impact human life and general well-being. Therefore, in addition to internal organisational strategy and policy, employee satisfaction in this sector is influenced by the organisation's level of involvement in social welfare improvement initiatives.

Overall, based on the research conducted, job satisfaction is a crucial indicator for providing high-quality services to healthcare organisations and increasing the labour productivity of their staff. Job satisfaction depends on various factors, including the organisation's approach to its staff and related decisions, its societal position, and its strategy for public welfare.

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