

## **ABSTRACT OF THE DIPLOMA THESIS**

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**Title:** The Influence of Vocation on Dexterity in Healthy Adults

### **Abstract:**

Restoring the ability to work is crucial for adult rehabilitation. Vocational rehabilitation supports individuals in obtaining and maintaining employment. Many job tasks require the use of upper extremities. As part of prevocational assessment, occupational therapists evaluate upper extremity functions using the standardized Purdue Pegboard Test (PPT).

This thesis aimed to explore the causal relationship between the characteristics of adult employment and their performance in the PPT. It focused on three main areas: the influence of occupation, weekly working hours, and current employment duration on the PPT.

A total of 266 subjects completed a questionnaire and were tested using the Czech extended version of the PPT manual. The tested population consisted of 70 % women and 30 % men, aged 20 to 64, with 250 employed subjects. The data were analysed using box plots.

The influence of occupation on the PPT performance was examined by categorizing subjects into professional fields based on the National Classification of Occupations based on the questionnaire. No statistically significant difference in PPT results was found between the subjects working in the field of Health Care and Pharmacy (the largest group) and those working in other professional fields. Furthermore, no correlation was found between the PPT results and the influence of weekly working hours nor the length of employment.

There was no evidence to suggest that any of the investigated employment factors had an impact on the fine motor skills as evaluated using the PPT. Therefore, there is no need for occupation-based Czech norms for the PPT.

**Key words:** Purdue Pegboard Test, vocation, functional capacity evaluation, return to work, fine motor skills