

Table 2: Differences in chronic stress and stress reactivity between the three subgroups

Scale	Descriptive statistics			Analysis of variance	
	Healthy control group Mean (SD) n=691	Non-Distressed group Mean (SD) n=449	Distressed group Mean (SD) n=717	F	Significance (p)
TICS: Work overload	13.81 (5.65)	14.28 (5.94)	16.38 ^{+B} (6.01)	37.35	< 0.001
TICS: Social work overload	6.63 (3.87)	6.63 (4.03)	7.85 ^{+B} (4.30)	19.90	< 0.001
TICS: Pressure to succeed	15.02 (4.92)	15.43 (5.17)	16.94 ^{+B} (5.30)	26.53	< 0.001
TICS: Work discontent	10.68 (5.16)	11.43 (4.94)	12.24 ⁺⁰ (5.32)	16.08	< 0.001
TICS: Overextended at work	6.39 (3.69)	6.74 (3.96)	8.20 ^{+B} (4.07)	41.68	< 0.001
TICS: Lack of social recognition	4.04 (2.59)	4.36 (2.73)	5.31 ^{+B} (3.08)	38.06	< 0.001
TICS: Social tension	5.16 (3.65)	5.49 (3.31)	6.49 ^{+B} (3.77)	25.28	< 0.001
TICS: Social isolation	7.24 (4.87)	7.64 (4.86)	8.55 ⁺⁰ (5.35)	12.16	< 0.001
TICS: Worries	6.10 (3.40)	6.72 [†] (3.40)	8.20 ^{+B} (3.59)	67.28	< 0.001
TICS: screening scale for chronic stress	15.59 (7.31)	16.88 [†] (7.39)	20.59 ^{+B} (7.70)	83.43	< 0.001
SRS: Reactivity to work overload	8.36 (2.309)	9.06 [‡] (2.40)	9.69 ^{+B} (2.32)	56.88	< 0.001

SRS: Reactivity to social conflicts	12.63 (2.55)	12.98 (2.40)	13.59 ^{+a} (2.51)	26.49	< 0.001
SRS: Reactivity to social stress	9.40 (2.33)	9.93 ^Δ (2.37)	10.57 ^{+a} (2.34)	44.26	< 0.001
SRS: Reactivity to failure	10.42 (1.90)	10.60 (1.90)	11.17 ^{+a} (1.96)	28.35	< 0.001
SRS: Anticipatory reactivity	8.35 (1.84)	8.67 [†] (1.79)	9.14 ^{+a} (1.67)	36.07	< 0.001
SRS: Prolonged reactivity	6.15 (1.82)	6.39 (1.79)	7.09 ^{+a} (2.09)	43.94	< 0.001
SRS: Overall stress reactivity score	55.31 (9.04)	57.64 [‡] (8.83)	61.24 ^{+a} (8.94)	78.26	< 0.001

⁺ significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis with consideration of subjective distress and healthy participants ($\alpha < 0.001$)

^a significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis with consideration of subjective distress and participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis without distress ($\alpha < 0.001$)

^Δ significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis with consideration of subjective distress and participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis without distress ($\alpha < 0.05$)

[‡] significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis without distress and healthy participants ($\alpha < 0.001$)

^Δ significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis without distress and healthy participants ($\alpha < 0.01$)

[†] significant difference between participants with at least one Rome II diagnosis without distress and healthy participants ($\alpha < 0.05$)