

## Move more at work: treat your body and brain



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# Move more at work: treat your body and brain

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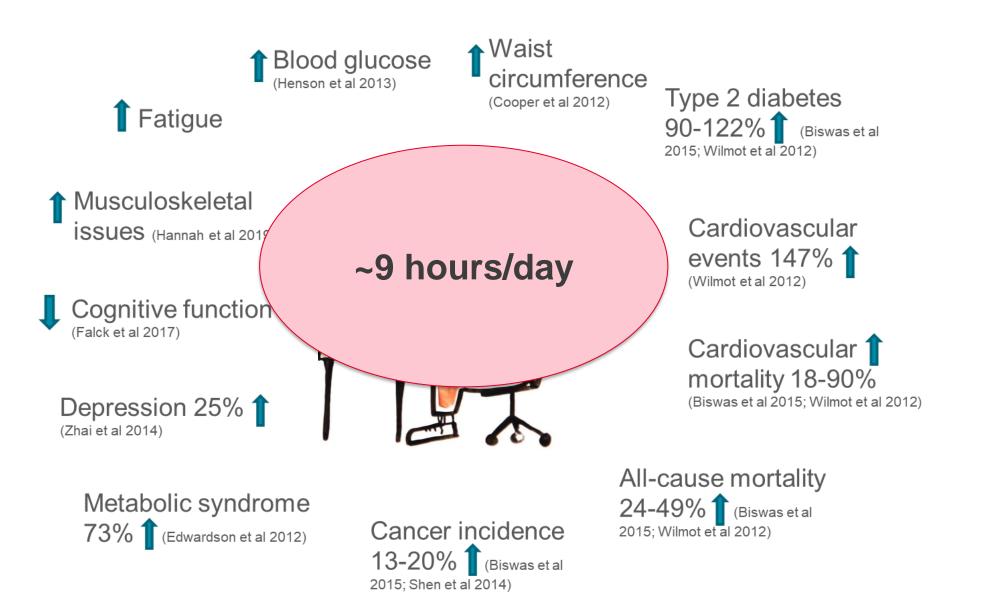
Charlotte Edwardson Professor in Sedentary Behaviour & Health

### How much do we sit?

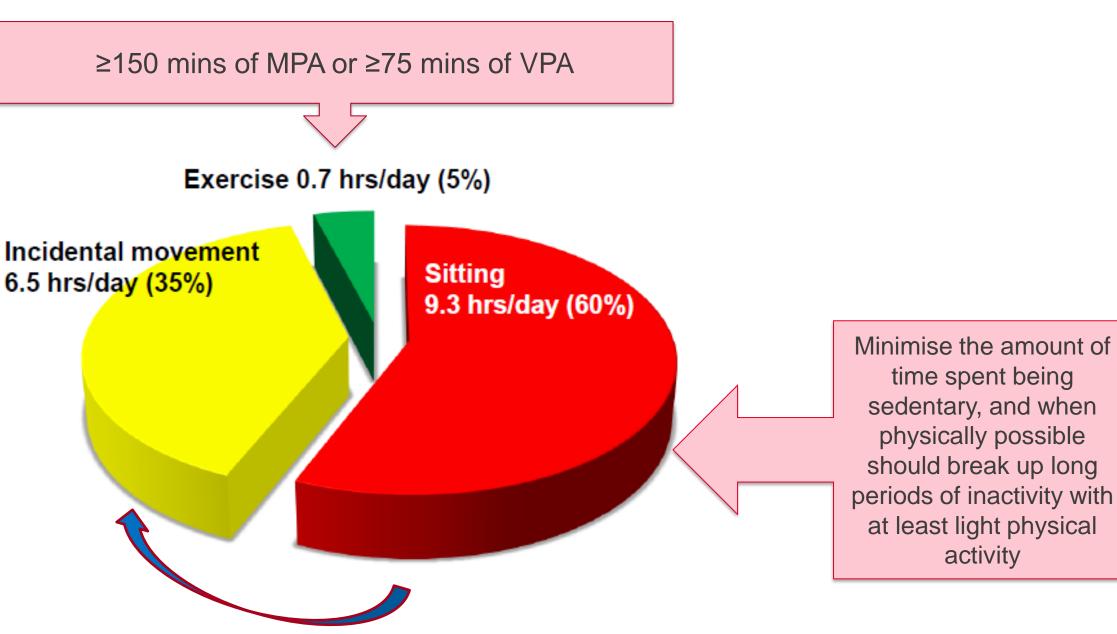
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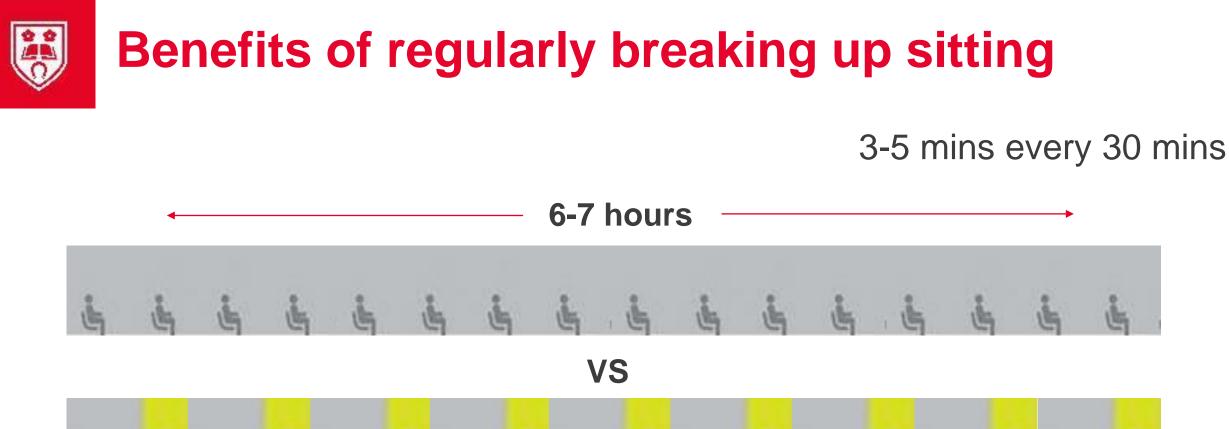
### Effects of sitting too much







UK Chief Medical Officer's Guidelines 2019







### **Reducing sitting: What works**

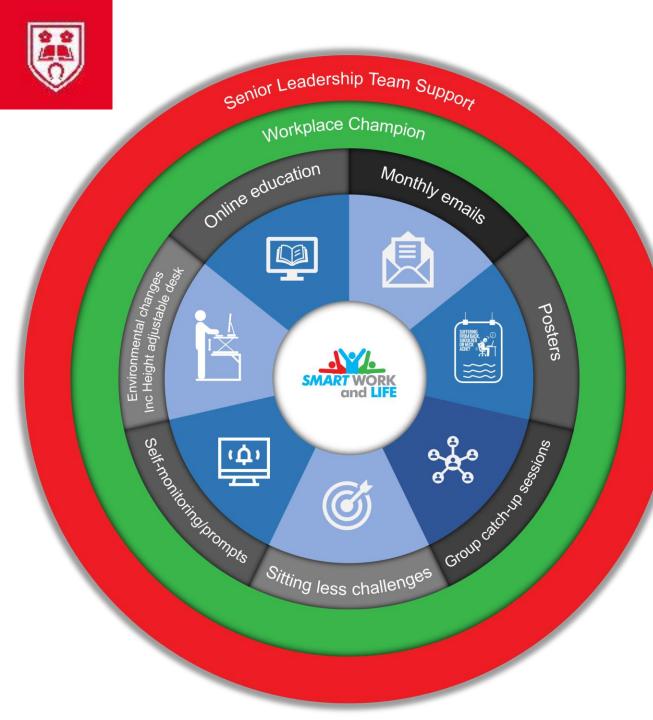
#### **Intervention functions:**

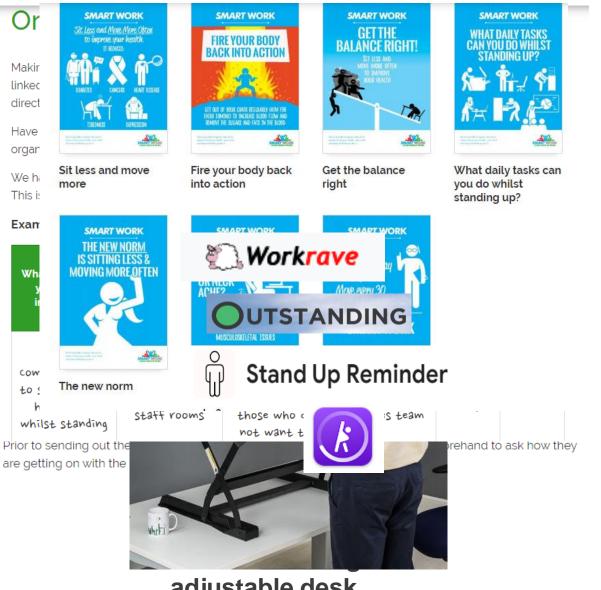
- Education 'increasing knowledge or understanding'
- Environment change 'changing the physical or social context'
- Persuasion 'using communication to induce positive or negative feelings or stimulate action'

#### **Behaviour change techniques:**

- Self-monitoring and prompts
- Problem solving
- Peer support
- Cultural/policy change

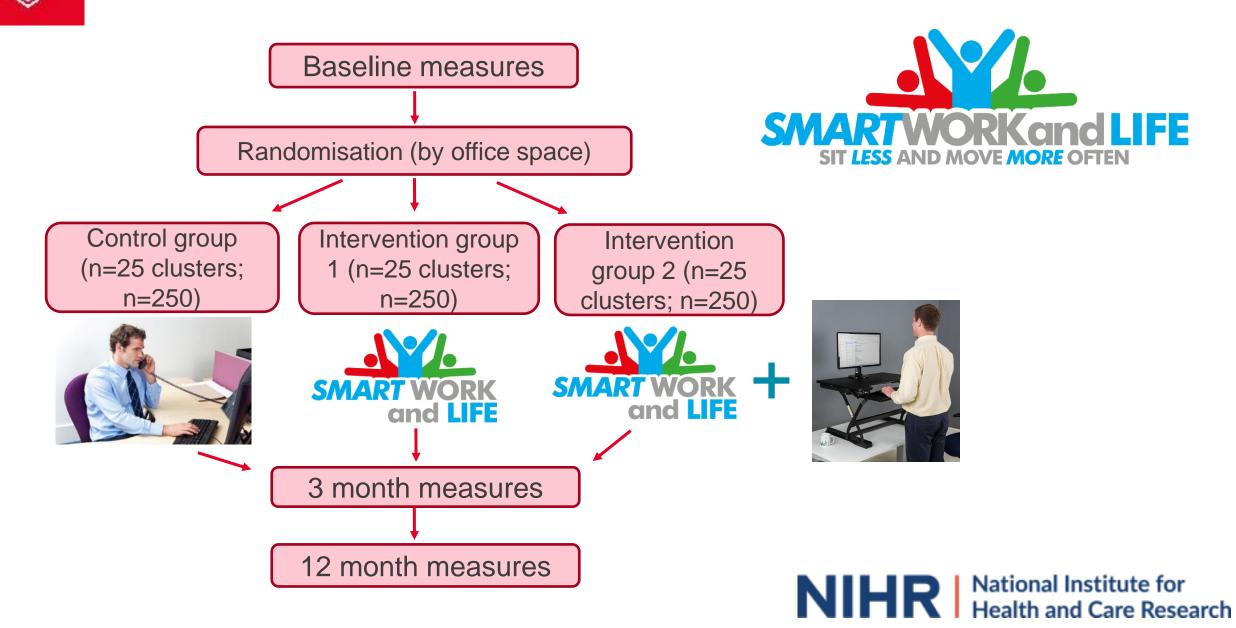
Gardner et al 2016. Health Psychology Review





adjustable desk

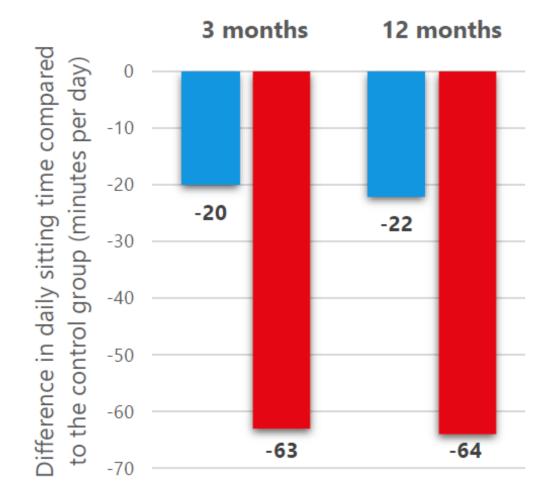
### Reducing sitting: what works?





## **Reducing sitting: What works?**





SWAL only SWAL plus desk

- The amount of time spent in prolonged bouts (>30-min) of sitting reduced in both intervention groups significantly
- Clusters with higher intervention implementation resulted in greater reductions in sitting:
  - Over 30 mins in SWAL only
  - Over 80 mins in SWAL plus desk

### Feedback on the intervention strategies



#### Online education (92% completion r

- 90% felt increased awareness of h
- 78% felt motivated to change their

'The message was quite clear, and I thought that

*w* "I think it's fab.... We've got an online learning portfolio. And it should be part of the [workplace] induction. Or a tailored version because it's really interesting. And it's really professional, informative"



#### Monthly emails

- Most appreciated the ema forefront of their mind, reg
- Some felt that an alternative because Yammer or IT messages so as to r

"What it does do is it reminds you. It does act as a reminder....the email could just say, "Stand!" And that would probably do as much good for me as everything that's in it because that's the only thing it's doing. It's just giving me a prompt to remind me"

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#### Prompt tools (31% us

- Mixed responses, s

"It make of work a then 30 min with a substant of myself as pretty active but the walking app that I've put on my phone [...] told me I wasn't. So, it really showed me how inactive I was in terms of walking when I thought I was more active. And it also showed how the smaller things can get your steps up that you don't really think about but are pretty easy to incorporate"



### Feedback on the intervention strategies



#### Sitting less challenges

- 60% reported reducing their sit group.
- Some mixed responses some enjoyed

"There's been quite a bit of fun, banter and you know, that's quite nice. [...] A lot of us have worked together for a long time, and [...] you can have a more light-hearted approach to it,[...]"

preferred not to engage







#### Height-Adjustable Workstatio

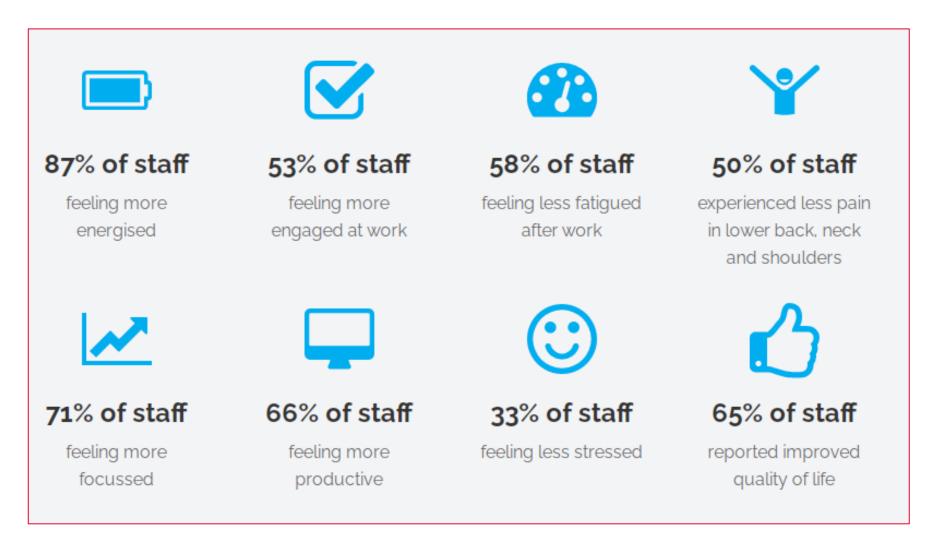
- 78% used their desk every
- 53% still used it every day a week

"If we didn't have the desks. then I don't think it would have made "I've just changed my routine now. I have a 30-to-40-minute with drive in [...] so I don't even sit down when I come in. I make a drink, put the stand up and my first least hour in the day is stood up"

Edwardson et al 2023. IJBNPA



### **Reducing sitting: Benefits**



The programme was found to be cost-saving = £4.72 returned for every £1 spent.



### **Benefits: Energy**



I used to suffer badly with the post lunch slump however I have found standing and moving more at work helps to alleviate this



### **Benefits: Mental**

That's the thing that makes me mostly want to stand, when I've really got to get something complete and it's challenging, mentally. I feel like standing and it helps me to do that

Better clarity of thought; more alert; better mind I concentrate better when I am standing up than when I am sitting

It helps me to focus more on a task



### **Benefits: Musculoskeletal**

Legs/joints are much better for standing couple hours per day Fewer aches and pain, especially in the neck, shoulders and back

The aches and pains have gone away

Better posture



### **Final points**



- Get a healthier balance between sitting and light physical activity for better health and wellbeing
- It is possible to reduce sitting time in people who have desk-based jobs
- Management buy-in, education and environment change seem key
- Choice of strategies as one size does not fit all



Thank you for listening





NIHR National Institute for Health and Care Research



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#### Homeworking health & activity 'Move it!' survey findings

Do you think you generally move enough during your homeworking days?







Homeworking health & activity 'Move it!' survey findings

58%

Tend to be more sedentary in the home than in the office



Tend to be more sedentary in the office than in the home

It varies too much to say



How often do you usually move away from your desk when working from home?



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Want to win prizes?



Get ideas and resources



Free 'Move More' reminder



**Become a champion!** 

Get involved in our new campaign Move More in '24

Go to bit.ly/MoveMoreIn24



### Become a Move More in '24 Champion

We're looking for 12 people to become Move More in '24 Champions.

We'd simply like you to encourage the people in your organisation to move more at work – which you may already be doing!

What's in it for you?

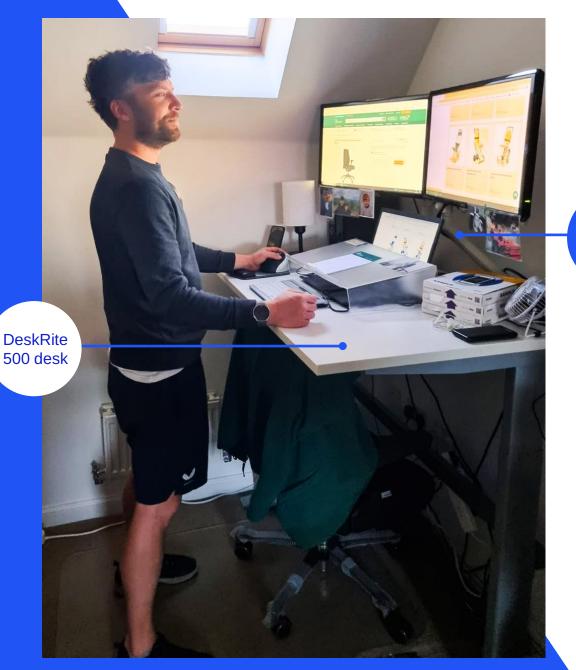
- Networking
- Shine a light on your work
- Receive a free premium Move More in '24 water bottle

Please email <u>marketing@posturite.co.uk</u> to register your interest.





- Field based for 14 years
- 2-3 days per week at home
- Remainder at client sites, on trains, cafés etc
- Some weeks 3-4 days out on the road





### Manufacturer

- Invested in sit-stand desking during office refurb
- Allowed staff to be more flexible during the day
- Improved health and productivity
- Extended to other floors within the building
- DeskRite 350 desks with programmable switch, back to back frame, acoustic panels
- HÅG SoFi Mesh chairs, best known for movement principles and centre tilt mechanism





### **Housing association**

- Sit-stand platforms (DeskRite 100 and Opløft) installed across the office
- Staff can book and use these as hotdesks
- Investing in sit-stand desking over next 2-3 years

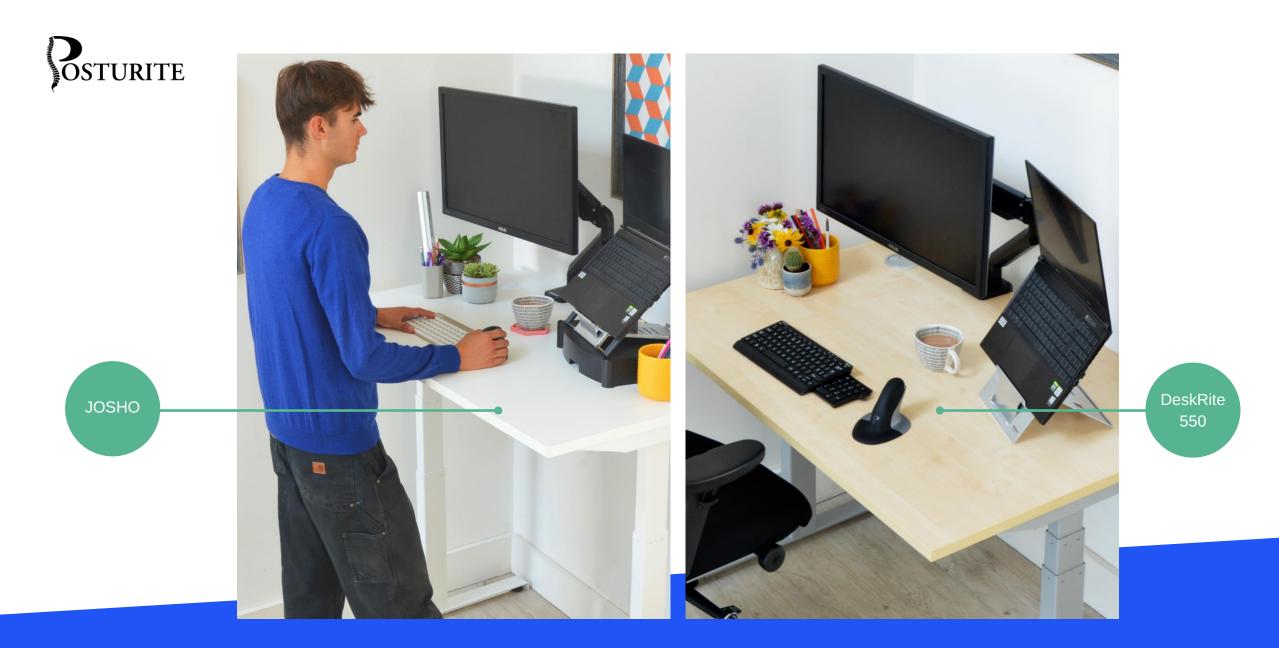




### **Major clothing retailer**

- New European HQ office with fixed bench desking
- Wanted solution for one person to stand in the same area
- Opløft with upgraded extended height clamp
- Arms are connected to fixed desk
- Opløft is raised to standing position, screens are adjusted to standing height





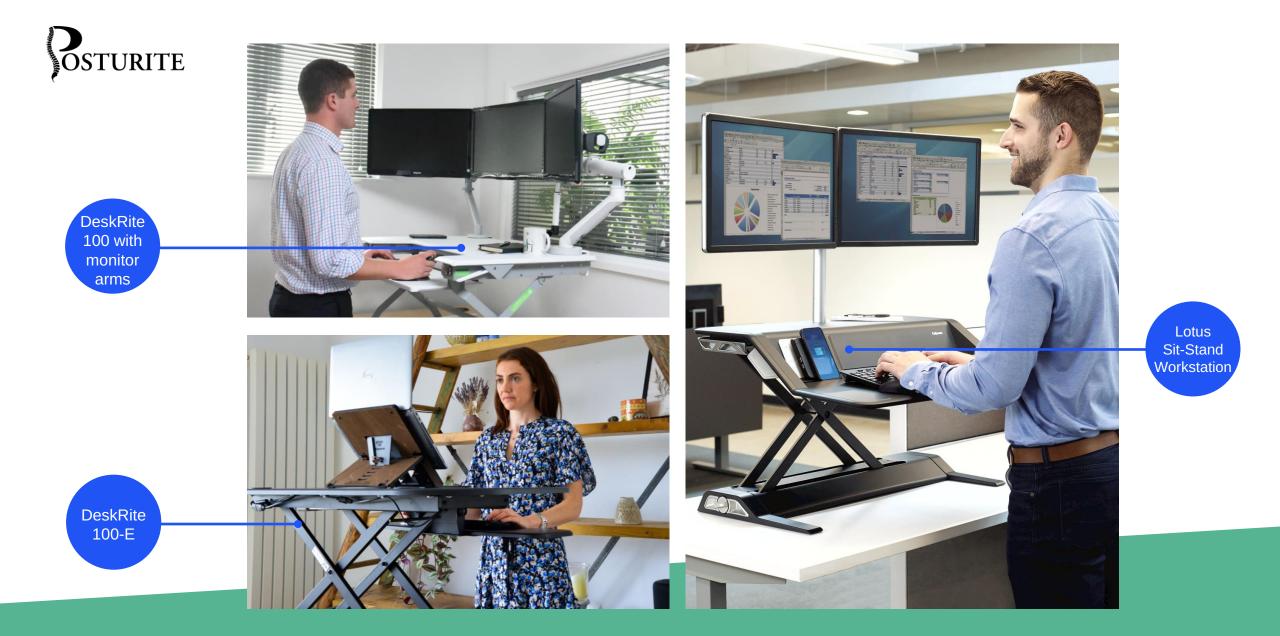






Standfriend Sit-Stand Platform

Opløft with monitor arms







Jabra Evolve 65 SE Bluetooth Headset





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Breyta Foot Support



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