

APPENDIX 1 (as supplied by the authors): Description of variables

Variable	Description	Anticipated direction of claim duration (for both short-term and long-term disability claims unless otherwise stated)
Age	Claimant's age at the beginning of disability	Older age: (-)
Gender	Claimant's gender	Female: (-)
Salary	Claimant's pre-disability gross income	Higher salary: (-)
Job demands	Physical demands of claimant's job (sedentary, light or heavy)	Heavy: (-) Light: (-)
Province	Claimant's province of residence	Quebec: (-) for short-term disability, Quebec: (+) for long-term disability
Comorbidity	If claimant has a secondary illness recorded in their claim file	Comorbidity present: (-)
Office	If a claim was received at Quebec or National office	Quebec: (-) for short-term disability, Quebec: (+) for long-term disability
Attendance at an independent medical evaluation	If claimant has attended an independent medical evaluation	Attendance at an independent medical evaluation: (-)
Receipt of rehabilitation	If claimant has received rehabilitation funded by SSQ Financial or not	Receipt of rehabilitation: (+)
Duration of claim approval	Duration from disability claim registration date to disability claim contractual approval date	Longer duration of claim approval: (-)

(-) associated with longer claim duration; (+) associated with shorter claim duration.