



Are Caregiver Injuries A Problem?

- Six of the top ten professions with greatest risk of back injuries are: Nurse's Aides, LPN's, RN's, Health Aides, Radiology Techs, PT's
- More than one third of caregiver injuries resulting in lost work are due to lifting or repositioning patients
- Direct and Indirect costs associated with caregiver back injuries are as high as \$25 Billion annually
- Many experts estimate that indirect costs are 4 to 7 times higher than direct costs
- Among indirect expenses are: hiring and retraining costs, use of replacement workers, overtime, medical management, incident reporting and paperwork, increased workers' compensation insurance costs, decreased employee morale, increased employee healthcare costs
- Over three quarters of a million working days are lost annually as a result of back injuries in nursing
- Musculoskeletal injuries account for more than 50% of lost time injuries in the healthcare sector
- The back injury rate in nursing continues to climb
- Body mechanics and lift training have consistently failed to reduce job-related injuries in healthcare
- After suffering a back injury, many healthcare individuals lose the ability to work directly in patient care.
- OSHA's General Duty Clause requires that workplaces be "free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm."