

Important Facts about Caregiver Injuries



- Six of the top ten professions with greatest risk of back injuries are: Nurse's Aides, LPN's, RN's, Health Aides, Radiology Techs, and PT's
- Nursing is more dangerous than construction work or farming, due primarily to the prevalence of back injuries incurred while lifting patients
- Approximately 38% of nurses and 42% of radiation techs have suffered injuries due to moving, lifting, or repositioning patients
- Research shows nearly 70% of nurse back injuries are to the lumbar spine with 57% to intervertebral discs.
- About 12% of nurses leave the profession due to back injuries
- The US shortage of registered nurses will increase to 340,000 by 2020
- More than one third of caregiver back injuries are due to lifting or repositioning patients
- Caregiver back and neck pain is the most expensive medical condition in healthcare at \$530,000/1000 FTEs
- Direct and Indirect costs associated with caregiver back injuries are as high as \$25 billion annually
- Direct costs per back-injured caregiver average nearly \$11,000
- Indirect costs per back injury average more than \$12,000 and include recruiting, overtime, hiring, retraining , incident investigation, and 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
- Safe Patient Handling Programs can reduce Workers' Comp costs by 30-75%
- Body mechanics and lift training have consistently failed to reduce job-related injuries in healthcare
- After suffering a back injury, many healthcare employees lose their 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...serious physical harm.

Help us prevent caregiver back injuries

Liko – The Safe Lifting People

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