

New WorkSafe Victoria Campaign

WorkSafe Victoria has launched a campaign targeting the state's biggest source of workplace injuries which cost the Victorian community \$600-million dollars a year in treatment and rehabilitation bills.

The new campaign shows the consequences of manual handling injuries as well as slips, trips and falls. These injuries account for more than 60% of all reported workplace injuries* – more than 17,000 a year in Victoria. The average cost of treating these people through Victoria's workers compensation system averages \$45,000 per claim.

In most cases these injuries are preventable, and often lead to long-term suffering.

Over the next few months, to coincide with the new campaign, WorkSafe inspectors will be visiting workplaces targeting these issues.

The target areas for the WorkSafe campaign, are injuries that cause the following:

- > back pain,
- > muscular sprains and sprains,
- > soft tissue injuries to the neck, arms, shoulders and legs,
- > abdominal hernias,
- > carpal tunnel syndrome,
- > tendonitis,
- > fractures and dislocations.

WorkSafe's Executive Director, John Merritt, said these injuries were often not taken seriously in the community, written off as 'accidents' or seen as 'just part of the job'. "There's no 'blood on the floor' or spectacular images on the nightly TV news or in the morning paper, yet the consequences of these injuries are enormous for individuals, their loved ones and their employers,"

For more information on the new WorkSafe Victoria campaign and to see the advertisement, go to the [special website](#) that has been set up by WorkSafe Victoria.

Click on the skeleton image to find out more about how to prevent injuries in your work place.

Manual handling issues, slips, trips and falls will be a major focus of workshops and events at this year's [Work Safe Week](#) (October 26-30). Book online and get more details at www.worksafe.vic.gov.au.

Source: WorkSafe Victoria

* Based on Victorian Workers compensation claims where people are off work 10 days or more and / or medical treatment costs in excess of \$520.



Disclaimer: The content of this information sheet is for distribution to clients and intermediaries of QBE. It provides general information only. It does not take into account matters specific to your business. You should always seek independent professional advice before acting upon anything in this document. No part of this publication can be reproduced without the written permission of QBE Insurance (Australia) Limited.
ABN 78 003 191 035.