



Occupational Injury Project

(This project has been approved by the ARHS IRC and the IUP IRC)

This project is a collaborative effort with IUP and involves two studies

If you meet the study criteria or would like to know if you meet the study criteria to participate in this research please contact the research coordinator at 814-889-3750 or kcoble@altoonaregional.org

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Co Investigator: Kim Corle, RN, MSN, MHA, CCRN at 814-889-3750, ARHS Research Coordinator

Purpose:

1. To investigate nurses and therapist experiences with occupational musculoskeletal injuries. The intent is to decrease the incidence of occupational musculoskeletal injuries in health care providers. A reduction in staff injuries will improve employee overall health and decrease the risk of patients being injured from nurse and therapist injuries. *(Participant Consent Needed)*

2. To investigate nurse and therapist occupational musculoskeletal injuries through evaluation of data and factors about health care provider occupational injuries, how they occurred, when they were reported, and contributing factors. The intent is to decrease the incidence of occupational musculoskeletal injuries in health care providers. A reduction in staff injuries will improve their overall health and decrease the risk of patients being injured from nurse and therapist injuries. *(No participant consent needed)*

Background: It is estimated that 12 % of nurses leave the profession annually due to back injuries. In addition more than 50 % complain of chronic back pain. Occupational injuries related to musculoskeletal disorder decrease an individual's quality of life and productivity at work.

Plan:

1. The target population includes any therapist or nursing personnel who had an occupational musculoskeletal injury during the time frame of 2006 or 2007 at ARHS (to include RN, LPN, NA or surgical technician).

2. Data will be analyzed for trends or patterns provided by ARHS Healthforce. Data will be analyzed by the investigators and assistance of statisticians at the IUP Applied Research Lab.