

# Slips & Trips

## in Health Care & Social Assistance<sup>1</sup>

*February 2009*

British Columbia's health care sector employs approximately 246,000 workers – about 11% of the provincial workforce. On average, healthcare workers have over 7,500 time-loss claims, loss over 300,000 days of work, and cost more than \$50 million in claims costs each year.

### **Why focus on Slips & Trips in Health Care in BC?**

Slips and trips are the second most common cause of time-loss injuries for health care workers. The number one cause is musculoskeletal injuries (MSIs) accounting for 47% of all time-loss claims and the third most common is violence at 10%.

### ***Slips & Trips - Every Year in BC***

- Over 1,000 workers in health care and social assistance sustain injuries requiring WorkSafeBC time-loss compensation from slipping, tripping, or falling
- Over \$7.5 million in claim costs were paid
- Just over 50,000 days of work were lost

### ***Where are do these injuries occur?***

- 34% occur in Acute Care
- 30% occur in Long Term Care
- 19% occur in Community Health Support Services

### ***Most Common Occupations Who are Slipping & Tripping?***

- Nurses Aides and assistants 25%
- Home Support workers 13%
- Community and Social Service workers 11%
- RNs 15%
- Food Service workers 8%

### ***How Old are the Workers who are Slipping & Tripping?***

- 13% are 25 – 34 years
- 24% are 35 – 44 years
- 36% are 45 – 54 years
- 25% are 55+ years

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<sup>1</sup> – Health Care and Social Assistance refer to WorkSafeBC Subsector number 7660.

Data Source 1: WorkSafeBC Data Warehouse, December 2008

Data Source 2: BC Stats, Labour Force Survey, February 2008