

Top 3 Risks in Nursing Homes And ALF's

More workplace injuries and illnesses

Nursing homes and assisted living facilities have very high rates of injury and illness compared to other industries. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, nursing and personal care facilities experienced an average lost workday injury and illness (LWDII) rate of 4.9 compared with 1.8 for the private industry as a whole.

Health care workers face a number of serious safety and health hazards according to OSHA. They include:

- **Blood borne pathogens and biological hazards**
- **Potential chemical and drug exposures**
- **Ergonomic hazards from lifting and repetitive tasks**
- **Workplace violence**

Simple solutions for employers

A little bit of "focus" goes a long way in preventing accidents. Here are some simple things to work on first in each hazard category:

Slips and falls – Wet floors are the main culprit of slip and fall accidents. Educate, equip and assign accountability to each and every employee to take wet floors seriously.

Patient Handling – Most accidents are caused while moving patients, so consider adopting a written lifting policy, investing in mechanical lifting equipment and training workers on the use of lifts. The investment will pay for itself in as few as two years, but the equipment can last for a decade or more.

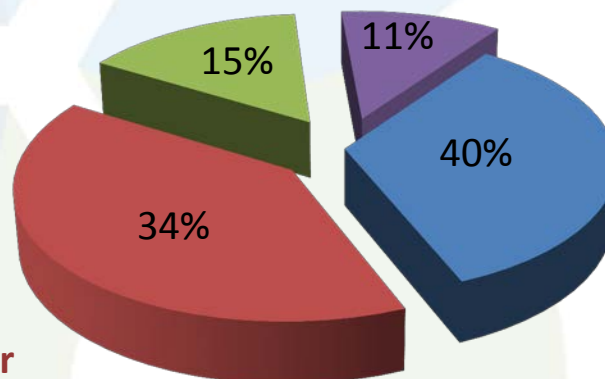
Patient Combativeness – Patient aggression permeates the health care culture, so be sure to assess the patient's condition and then formulate an effective plan to manage interactions to reduce the risk of injury.

Patient Handling

Patient Combativeness

Other

Slip and Fall



For more information and additional risk management and prevention tools, visit: fwcruminsurance.com