

Title:	Prognostic factors in work-related shoulder and knee injury
Research Category:	Category 1: occupational disease, injury and health services
Issue/rationale:	At present WCB-Alberta incurs considerable costs arising from work-related shoulder or knee injuries. This study will examine a cohort of patients that present to the University of Alberta Hospital Emergency room with work-related shoulder and knee injury so as to determine the types of injury incurred as well as identifying the factors that determine clinical outcome and return to work.
Objectives:	<p>Research objectives</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To identify the distribution of different clinical diagnoses that comprise work-related shoulder and knee injury. 2. To understand how work-related shoulder and knee injuries that present to the emergency room are managed in terms of investigations, treatments, and referral for specialist care. 3. To understand which individual, clinical, and workplace factors contribute to a greater probability of poor clinical outcome from work-related shoulder and knee injury. 4. To identify which individual, clinical, and workplace factors contribute to a greater probability of a poor outcome from work-related shoulder and knee injury in terms of return to work and time lost from work. 5. To develop a surrogate measure for the severity of work-related shoulder and knee injury, that can be used at the time of initial presentation. 6. To validate this surrogate measure of severity of injury as a moderator of time off work.
Anticipated Results/Impact:	The results from this project should help in targeting resources so as to minimize the clinical and vocational disability arising from these injuries.
Keywords:	shoulder, knee
Investigators:	Jeremy Beach, University of Alberta
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