

<b>Title:</b>	Recurrence of work-related low back injuries: the association between patient and administrative assessment
<b>Research Category:</b>	Category 1: occupational disease, injury and health services
<b>Issue/rationale:</b>	In order to develop prevention interventions and evaluate effectiveness of treatments, a thorough understanding of what constitutes an important recurrence is needed and valid and reliable measures of significant recurrences must be developed.
<b>Objectives:</b>	The objective of the proposed research project is to examine injured workers' perceptions of low back injury (LBI) recovery and recurrence following a return to work and to determine if administrative measures of LBI recurrence utilized in previous studies are consistent with patients' assessments.
<b>Anticipated Results/Impact:</b>	Although prior research studies have addressed this topic in administrative data, to ensure the appropriateness of developed methodologies and their usefulness in public policies and everyday business practice, these methods require validation. Validated measures will enhance studies that attempt to identify the frequency of actual recurrence, risk factors for these events, and ultimately, better preventive interventions. Results of this research will also improve outcome measurement at WCB-Alberta and will support more informed health care and business decisions.
<b>Keywords:</b>	Low-back, recurrence
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<b>Funding Agency:</b>	Workers' Compensation Board–Alberta