OSHA Safe Patient Handling Myths



Facts and myths about techniques for moving patients and the use of mechanical equipment.

According to the most recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, nursing assistants suffered more musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) in 2011 than any other occupation. Registered nurses were the fifth-highest occupation for MSDs. These injuries are due in large part to overexertion associated with lifting, transferring, and repositioning patients manually.

Safe patient handling advocates often hear a lot of reasons why hospitals choose not to invest in mechanical lift equipment or…