

MEMBERS

- Oregon OSHA*
- SAIF Corporation*
- University of Oregon Labor Education Research Center *
- Acumentra Health
- Oregon Nurses' Association
- Oregon Health Care Association
- Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems
- Oregon Healthy Workforce Center
- Oregon Home Care Commission
- SEIU 49
- Director of Nursing Dallas Retirement Village
- Clinical Nurse Specialist–Occupational Health
- Physical therapist (St Charles Medical Center, Bend)
- Ergonomics, Safety & Safe Patient Handling Specialists (Asante Health Systems, Providence Health & Services, and Kaiser Permanente, OR)

Co-Chairs

Lynda Enos, MS, RN, COHN-S, CPE. Chair 2004-2006 and Co-Chair 2007-2016, Ergonomics Consultant, HumanFit, LLC.

Deb Fell-Carlson, RN, MS, COHN-S, HEM. Co-Chair 2007-2016, Loss Control Program Advisor, SAIF Corporation

*Founding members

Visit the
OCHE Website
www.hcergo.org

A 'one stop' shopping
resource for
health care ergonomics
information

Recipient of the
2010 CROET Nursing Worksite
Award

The award provides funding for hosting of the OCHE website.

The award is given with support from Oregon State Association of Occupational Health Nurses (OSAOHN) and the Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences

For More Information Contact

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Improving
Health Care
Employee
and
Consumer Safety



MISSION

To improve healthcare employee and consumer safety by promoting ergonomics best practices across the continuum of care. OCHE goals are to increase education and awareness about musculoskeletal injuries (MSDs) and to share and promote ergonomic best practices and injury prevention strategies with the Oregon health care community.

(August 2003)

WHO ARE WE?

A working partnership between health care industry groups and professional associations, academia, labor, workers' compensation insurance, and Oregon OSHA.

GOALS

- Increase education and awareness of ergonomics injuries and challenges in the health care community.
- Share ergonomics best practices and injury prevention strategies within the health care community.
- Implement a communication plan to include all sectors of the health care community.

FUTURE FOCUS

- Expand MSDs prevention resources for long term care and home health care.
- Explore approach to implementing a 'pilot' SPH equipment warehouse for home health patients and their caregivers in Oregon
- Continue efforts to find funding and promote the FOC program to Critical Access Hospitals and Long Term Care facilities throughout Oregon.

PROJECTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Education and Awareness for Stakeholders

- National HealthCare Ergonomics Conference held in 2004, 2006, 2009 and 2014 in Portland, OR and in 2011 with the Washington Safe Patient Handling Steering Committee and the University of Washington Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety.
- Statewide workshops and seminars sponsored by member organizations.
- Stakeholders meetings for health care related organizations held in 2006 and 2007.



Networking and Collaborative Partnerships

- Guest presentations for the Governor's Healthcare Workforce Retention Initiative task group, meetings of nurse educators, Oregon State Board of Nursing and to community groups.
- EMS Summit (Assisted Living and EMS partnership) to reduce injury risk from patient handling (LERC).
- Representatives on the Occupational Public Health Program (OPHP) for worker injury and illness prevention.

Impacting Curriculum

- State Nursing Assistant Curriculum revised to include safe patient handling (SPH) concepts and use of lift and positioning devices.
- Implementation of the national SPH curriculum into a majority of Schools of Nursing in Oregon (facilitated by ONA).
- EMS/Firefighters - Exploring integration of ergonomics principles in EMT training requirements at the state level (LERC).

Resources and Training

- Health care ergonomics website developed in 2010
- OCHE member organizations offer training, resource materials, and free ergonomics consulting (ONA, SAIF, Liberty NW, Oregon OSHA).
- SPH training materials and videos developed for Acute and Long Term Care health care workers, patients and their families with grants from Oregon OSHA (ONA, LERC, OROSHA, SAIF). Materials are provided at no cost to all acute and long term care facilities in the state.
- Train-the-trainer 8-hour Ergonomics Curriculum developed for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Firefighters (LERC).

Needs Assessment and Assessing Impact

- An estimated 65% of Acute Care Facilities (i.e., 80% of Acute Care beds) in Oregon have SPH program initiatives with varying components.
- Conducted a formal survey of Acute and Long Term Care facilities to assess impact of OCHE efforts to reduce MSDs in Oregon (OCHE and OPHP).
- Survey of EMS and Long Term Care facilities in Oregon around issues of SPH and transporting heavy patients (LERC).

Strategic and Creative Incentives

- Completed pilot projects in support of OR-OSHA Facility of Choice (FOC) SPH program for Critical Access Hospitals (including Home Health and EMS) and Long Term Care.
- Promote use of the Employer at Injury Program and Preferred Worker Program in support of healthcare ergonomics initiatives.
- Explore and develop solutions for obtaining necessary SPH equipment for the Home Care environment.

