

The Perfect Storm

Slips, trips, falls and your aging workforce

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported 27% of 2019 nonfatal work injuries resulting in days away from work were related to slips, trips, and falls. In addition, slips, trips, and falls was one of the three leading causes of work-related injuries treated in an emergency department.

Interestingly, the BLS also reported in 2020 one in four American workers will be over 55, and this demographic shift has made the issue of healthier workers, especially those of advanced age, much more pressing.

Finally, in April 2020 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported 41.3% of 55-to-64-year-olds who were on the job in 2018 had had a work-related health issue. That contrasts with a 21.7% reported by 18-to-24-year-old employees.

It is not difficult to realize you are likely in the center of a perfect storm.

We Work on the Expected

Our onsite certified early intervention specialists are trained to review work methods, identify root causes, and provide guidance on how to avoid further injury. They can apply this same approach to slip, trip, and fall events and near misses. They can investigate and document:

- Contributing factors
- If an unsafe act or work practice occurred
- Possible root causes
- Recommended corrective actions

We provide can provide your team the process and/or additional capacity as needed.

We Work on the Unexpected

As your workforce ages, the physiological condition of the employee becomes increasingly more important to consider as a slip, trip, and fall causation. The truth is most employers don't include it within their analysis or know how to evaluate it. Our early intervention specialists are trained to assess the employee's:

- Vision
- Orthostatic blood pressure
- Mobility
- Leg strength and endurance
- Static / dynamic balance

All can be a contributing, if not the primary reason for a slip, trip, and fall.

We Address Deficiencies

If one or more deficiencies are found, our team will work with you and the employee to help get them addressed. Vision and blood pressure concerns require primary care provider support, but our team can help with mobility, strength, and balance concerns. A proactive work conditioning program can help the employee become less likely to experience a slip, trip, and fall and be better prepared for their workday. Our team will provide follow-up assessments to ensure progress is made and risk is reduced.

Onsite Support

Our certified early intervention specialists provide your employees face-to-face personal care within your facility to address their needs and teach them how to avoid injury. Best of all, we don't need you to commit to a fulltime position. We can provide support for as little as a few hours one day a week.

Nationwide Network

No matter where you live, Atlas is there. We have teamed with a select group of the best healthcare professionals across the country. Chances are there's an Atlas professional in your community. It's our commitment to keeping your people injury-free and your business on track.