



Regional Health Authority
Central Manitoba Inc.

Office régional de la santé
du Centre du Manitoba inc.

Regional Health Authority – Central Manitoba Inc.

Safe Client Handling and Injury Prevention Program (SCHIPP)



Supported by a grant from the Community Initiatives and Research Program of the Workers Compensation Board of Manitoba

Executive Summary

The (SCHIPP) Safe Client Handling and Injury Prevention Program has a *Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention* (MSI) Educator, who is an Occupational Therapist mobile in the Home Care communities. The MSI Educator responds to client changes and hazards in the physical environment of the client's home to assist in reducing the injuries by home care staff and clients.

The importance of the project is concentrated on educating the worker to understand their risks for musculoskeletal injury, promote personal safety, reduce the number of injuries and increase the retention of their services by making them see themselves as a valuable member of the team. Education is being utilized in the prevention of injuries rather than the reaction to the injury. The improvement of coordinator (*supervisor*) and worker understanding of the risks and preventative strategies will protect the worker's right to work safely with the appropriate equipment and techniques.

Educating and review of staff performance is ongoing with the goal to empower Home Care staff and Peer Leaders to build their level of competence and confidence to provide training to others.

SCHIPP has developed more defined criteria for clients' transfer status to become more consistent and safer in practice. The SCHIPP Committee will liaise with hospitals and home care to work through the complexities of coordination required for safe discharge planning required to meet SCHIPP guidelines. This will enhance and promote the need for safety throughout all related health care areas.