

Influencing the safety of young workers

9 July 2015





Meet your moderator

Naomi Mason Customer Services Manager WorkCover Queensland





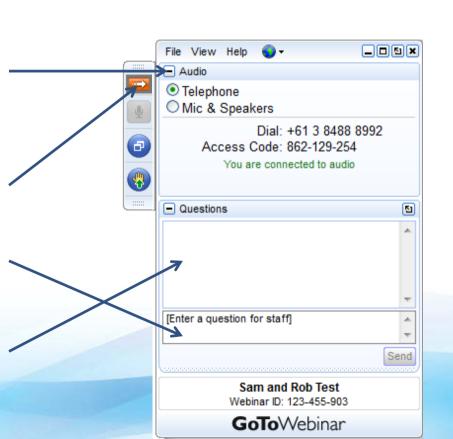
How to interact today

Select audio on the control panel to change between computer audio and telephone.

Click on the red button to hide and unhide the panel.

Type your comments and questions here.

Your comments and questions will appear here throughout the webinar.





After the webinar

- Webinar recording and presentation will be on worksafe.qld.gov.au in the coming weeks
- So we can continually improve our level of service, we would appreciate you completing a short survey at the end of the webinar

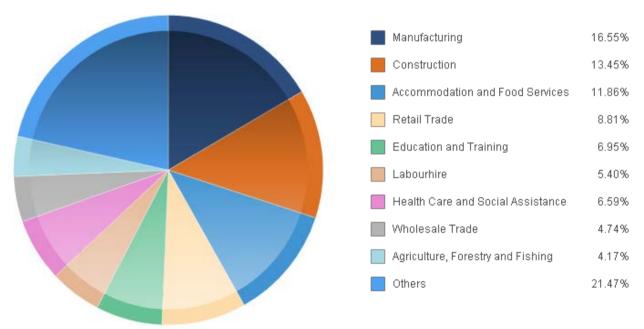


Session summary

- Claim trends
- Case study overview
- Young adult brain development
- Vulnerabilities specific to young adults
- Practical advice for employers

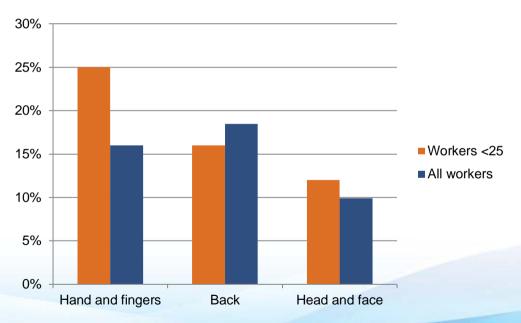


Industry breakdown of young worker claims



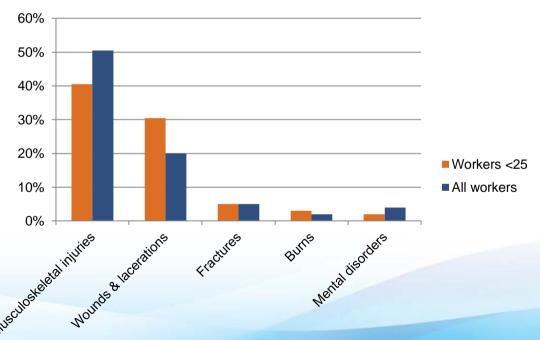


Injury nature





Injury location





Case study discussion

Injured worker: 17 year old male marine mechanic

Accident details: whilst transferring fuel from underfloor fuel tank a spark

caused a fire

Injury type: superficial burns to hands, wrists and legs

Treatment: admitted to hospital for 11 days

compression garments and burn cream

Return to work: suitable duties for 3 weeks

pre-injury duties within 8 weeks of the accident

Worker goal: get tan back, recover as quickly as possible



Meet our Guest speaker

Lisa Newland
Principal Consultant
Sentis



HISTORICAL NEGATIVITY

"I see no hope for the future of our people if they are dependent on the frivolous youth of today, for certainly all youth are reckless beyond words".

Hesiod (a Greek poet, 700BC)

"Our youth now love luxury. They have bad manners, contempt for authority; they show disrespect for their elders and love chatter in place of exercise; they no longer rise when elders enter the room; they contradict their parents, chatter before company; gobble up their food and tyrannize their teachers."

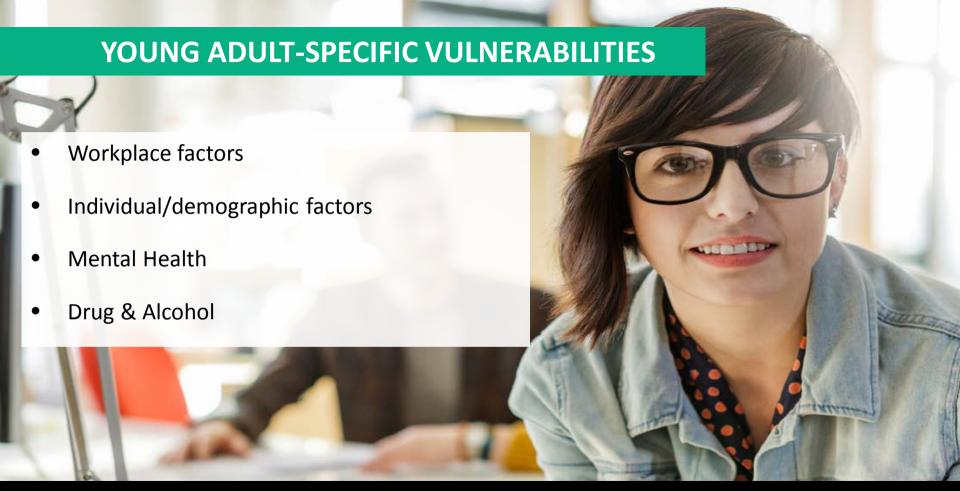
Socrates, (469-399 B.C.)



YOUNG ADULT BRAIN DEVELOPMENT



- Emotions vs. Executive Functions
- Reward circuitry highly active
- Coordination is still developing
- Ability to create mental imagery is still developing
- Melatonin production differs in young adults
- Perception of Risk



RISK-TAKING, BUT NOT WHAT YOU EXPECT...

- Engage more in unknown risks than they do in known risks
- Different style of information processing
- Social motivation is greater
- Fatigue can be a factor

Adolescents' greater involvement than adults in risk-taking does not stem from ignorance, irrationality, delusions of invulnerability, or faulty calculations (Reyna & Farley, 2006).









SO WHAT CAN EMPLOYERS DO?

Include "gist-based" reasoning when teaching new skills

Autonomy (or perceived control) over work tasks

Promotion of social interactions for safety

Adequate supervision for young workers undertaking tasks involving complex decision making

Consideration of individual differences and circumstances

Promote safety attitudes and build trust with young workers



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"Adolescence is like having only enough light to see the step directly in front of you."

Sarah Addison Allen,

The Girl Who Chased the Moon

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