



BETTER CARE OPTIONS

WORKPLACE HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Better Care Options (BCO) has a duty of care, as far as is practical, to provide all its employees with a safe place to work that is free from injury and risks to health while at work.

Better Care Options will do this by encouraging safer work place practises and thus reduce the potential for injury and associated risks. This could result in changes to the way duties are undertaken.

Better Care Options recognises, by the nature of work done, that Care Workers could be exposed to environments and practises that may pose risks to injury. Their role covers a variety of tasks often repetitive in nature in a range of different and potentially unpredictable workplaces (clients homes), all with differing risks. These variables significantly increase the risks and potential for injury.

Types of Risks, Care Workers may be exposed to are:

- Physical hazards e.g. Slippery and wet surfaces, unpredictable loads, unfamiliar equipment and resources
- Infection control hazards – handling body fluids
- Adoption of awkward postures, and sustaining these positions, especially if physical effort is required at the same time

Also many injuries occur as a result of cumulative and on-going poor work practices. So even how a Care Worker performs a task at home will influence or aggravate the risk of injury at work.

The workplace for Better Care Option Carer Workers is often the home of their client and is covered by the WHS Act.

Better Care Options is committed to reducing the risk of injuries within the workplace and has therefore introduced processes and procedures that help assess risk, report incidents and review practises.

Glynn Conibear

Director