

Injury / Near Miss Investigations

One of the main purposes of an Injury/Near Miss Investigation is to determine the root causes of an incident and prevent recurrence. This is accomplished through the implementation and follow up of corrective and preventive actions.

Corrective and Preventive Actions

A corrective action means a situation has been re-instated to its original state. Mopping a floor and placing a wet floor sign is a corrective action. A preventive action will put into place arrangements which will prevent a recurrence, to stop the floor from being wet in the first place.

Using the 5 Why's in Injury/Near Miss Investigations

Using the 'Five whys' approach can help to identify the root causes of an Injury/Near Miss. By asking 'Why?' up to five times, you can investigate the root causes of an incident and identify preventative actions to prevent an incident happening again. This technique aids us in making preventative actions in addition to corrective actions.

Slip, Trip and Fall Example

Why was the worker injured?	The worker slipped and fell.
Why did the worker slip?	There was water on the floor.
Why was there water on the floor?	The floor was recently mopped.
Why did worker step in the water?	No wet floor signage in place.
Why wasn't wet floor signage in place?	All signage was in use elsewhere.

Corrective Action: Complete mopping and ensure wet floor signage in place.

Preventive Action: Ensure adequate numbers of wet floor signage available.



Winnipeg Regional
Health Authority
Caring for Health

Office régional de la
santé de Winnipeg
À l'écoute de notre santé