General MSD Hazard Identification Tool

Job Title or Task		Date	
Completed By			
		Space for notes/comments is provided on the back page of this chec	tklist
		MSD Hazards - Gripping	Check if required
Pinch Gripping	•	unsupported object(s)	
800	•	difficult/tiring holding or manipulating	
	•	difficult/tiring squeezing to open/close	
Power Gripping	•	unsupported heavy object(s)	
E.	•	difficult/tiring holding and manipulating	
	•	difficult/tiring squeezing to open/close	
			Check if
		MSD Hazards - Force	required
Lifting/Lowering		object is heavy/difficult to lift/lower	
(consider both one and two-handed lifting/lowering)		object is lifted/lowered repeatedly	
	•	object is above the shoulders	
	•	object is below the knees	
	•	Object is far away from the belly button	
	•	loads are unstable, unbalanced, uncooperative, or unpredictable	
	•	lifting/lowering postures are awkward (bend, twist, kneel, reach, sit)	
Pushing/Pulling (consider one and	9	object is hard/difficult to push/pull	
two-handed pushing/pulling. Also, consider whole body & arms/upper body only	•	object is pushed/pulled repeatedly	
	•	object is pushed with hands above the shoulders	
	•	object is pushed with hands below the waist	
pushing/pulling)	•	pushing/pulling postures are awkward (bend, twist, kneel, reach, sit)	





MSD Hazards – Awkward/Fixed Posture (Do workers frequently assume these postures and/or hold them for a long time?) Awkward Posture • neck visibly bent forward (chin close to chest) • neck visibly bent to one side (ear close to shoulder) • neck twisted to either side/chin close to the shoulder • neck noticeably bent back • neck bent forward and chin out (head forward) • hand(s) at or above the head					
 Awkward Posture neck visibly bent forward (chin close to chest) neck visibly bent to one side (ear close to shoulder) neck twisted to either side/chin close to the shoulder neck noticeably bent back neck bent forward and chin out (head forward) 					
 neck twisted to either side/chin close to the shoulder neck noticeably bent back neck bent forward and chin out (head forward) 					
neck noticeably bent back neck bent forward and chin out (head forward)					
• neck hoticeably bent back • neck bent forward and chin out (head forward)					
• hand(s) at or above the head					
elbow(s) at/or above the shoulder					
• elbows/hands behind the body					
sitting or standing with the back noticeably bent forward, sideways, or twisted					
back noticeably bent backward with no support for the back					
squatting/kneeling while working					
• wrist noticeably bent down or up					
wrist noticeably bent to the side (toward thumb/little finger)					
hand turned so palm faces fully up or down					
Fixed Posture • sitting for long periods without standing (office work, driving, etc.)					
standing still on a hard surface for a long period of time					
MSD Hazards – Repetition (Do workers repetitively move the same Check if					
MSD Hazards – Repetition (Do workers repetitively move the same body part – with little opportunity for recovery?) require					
Repetition • performing the same neck motions repeatedly					
performing the same shoulder motions repeatedly					
performing the same elbow motions repeatedly					
performing the same wrist motions repeatedly					
performing the same hand/finger motions repeatedly					
performing intensive keyboarding					
performing intensive mousing					

	MSD Hazards - Other	Check if required
Repeated Impacts	using the hand or knee as a hammer	
Contact Stress	tool handles dig into hand/palm	
	 workstation/equipment edges/products dig into body (hands, forearms, trunk, thighs) 	
Hand-Arm Vibration	 using vibrating tools (impact wrenches, carpet strippers, chainsaws, jackhammers, scalers, riveting hammers, grinders, sanders, jig saws, jack-leg drills.) 	
Whole-Body Vibration	operating mobile equipment/vehicles on rough, uneven surfaces	
Cold/Hot	work environment is cold, hand/arms are exposed to cold air	

Modified from Part3A: MSD Prevention Toolbox – Getting Started Developed by Occupation Health and Safety Council of Ontario (OHSCO)



