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# Identification of factors that affect the adoption of an ergonomic intervention among Emergency Medical Service workers

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This study explored factors contributing to intervention adoption decisions among Emergency Medical Service (EMS) workers. Emergency Medical Service workers (n = 190), from six different organisations, participated in a two-month longitudinal study following the introduction of a patient transfer-board (also known as slide-board) designed to transfer patients from a stretcher to a gurney. Surveys

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concepts identified in the diffusion of innovation literature and have the potential to further ergonomics intervention adoption efforts.

Practitioner Summary. This study explored factors that potentially facilitate the adoption of voluntarily used ergonomics interventions. EMS workers were provided with foldable transfer-boards (slideboards) designed to reduce the physical demands when laterally transferring patients. Factors predictive of adoption measures included perceived ergonomics advantage, the endorsement by champions, and prior tool experience.

Keywords: intervention adoption ergonomics intervention injury prevention EMS firefighter

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