

Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS)

Workers who use power tools may be at risk.

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What is Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome ?

- Both hand-held and stationary tools that transmit vibration through a work piece can cause vibration "white fingers" or hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS).
- White fingers, or Raynaud's Syndrome, is a disease of the hands in which the blood vessels in the fingers collapse due to repeated exposure to vibration.
- The Skin and muscle tissue do not get the oxygen they need and eventually die

Why We Care?

- HAVS could be predicted by observing its early signs of numbness and/or tingling in the fingers, hands, or arms or similar signs when hands are exposed to cold or water. With prolonged exposure, the disease progress and results in more frequent attacks of numbness, tingling, and pain. The worker finds it difficult to use his/her hands and on advanced stages, he/she may be disabled for a significant amount of duration. The effects are tending to be irreversible in such cases.

HAND-ARM

VIBRATION SYNDROME



Vibration white finger (VWF), also known as hand-arm vibration syndrome (HAVS) or dead finger, is a secondary form of Raynaud's syndrome, an industrial injury triggered by continuous use of vibrating hand-held machinery.

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS)

Other disorders may also be caused by vibration. Carpal Tunnel Syndrome (CTS), is thought to arise in part from entrapment or compression of nerves in the wrist which could stem from vibration. CTS caused by hand-held vibrating tools was made a prescribed disease from April 1993.

TOTAL 288,000
MEN 255,000
WOMEN 33,000

'whiteness' or numbness in the fingers

change colour

dexterity

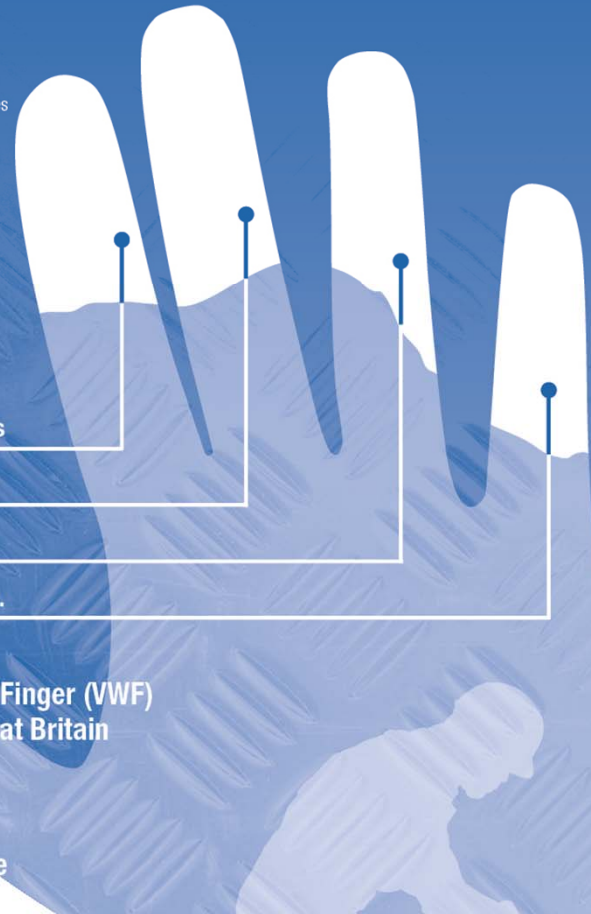
the sufferer may lose fingers.

and Vibration White Finger (VWF)

me (CTS) in Great Britain

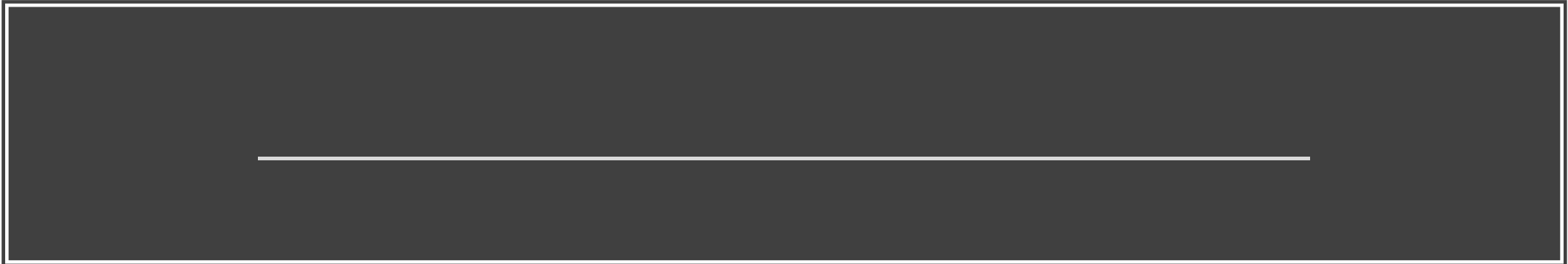
Finger

me



Stage	Condition of Fingers	Work and Social Interference
00	No tingling, numbness, or blanching of fingers	No complaints
OT	Intermittent tingling	No interference with activities
ON	Intermittent numbness	"
TN	Intermittent tingling and numbness	"
01	Blanching of a fingertip with or without tingling and/or numbness	"
02	Blanching of one or more fingers beyond tips, usually during winter	Possible interference with nonwork activities; no interference at work
03	Extensive blanching of fingers; during summer and winter	Definite interference at work, at home, and with social activities; restriction of hobbies
04	Extensive blanching of most fingers; during summer and winter	Occupation usually changed because of severity of signs and symptoms

No. of Workers	Industry	Type of Tool
500,000	Construction	Handtools
200,000	Farming	Gasoline chain saws
14,000	Metal working	Handtools
54,000	Steel	Furnace cleaning using powered handtools
30,000	Lumber and wood	Gasoline chain saws
34,000	Furniture manufacturing	Handtools
100,000	Mining	Pneumatic drills
250,000	Truck and auto manufacturing	Handtools
64,000	Foundries	Handtools
Total	1,246,000	





Control and Prevention

01

Engineering
Controls

02

Medical
Surveillance
and Worker
Education

03

Work Practices

04

Personal
Protective
Equipment

Engineering Control

- Redesign the job
- Redesign the tool

Medical Surveillance and Worker Education

- Preplacement and initial examination
- Understanding the effect of vibration
- Training the occupational health practitioners
- Nicotine, cold and vibration tends to worsen the condition

Work Practices

- Holding the Jackhammer
- Maintaining the points
- Maintaining the body temperature
- Let the jackhammer do the work
- Switching work tasks
- Using Lightweight tools
- Storing the jackhammer

Personal
Protective
Equipment



- Reduces shock
- Gloves meet
- ISO 10

Use vibrating tools or machinery?

You are at risk of **Hard Arm Vibration Syndrome (HAVS).**

Symptoms may include tingling and numbness in the fingers, loss of strength or pain in the hands or arms.

Damage is irreversible.



Thanks



Questions?

Comments!