



Mental Disorder claims

WorkSafeBC Coverage of mental disorders

- If a reaction to one or more traumatic events arising out of and in the course of employment, or
- If it is predominately cause by a significant work-related stressor, or a cumulative series of significant work-related stressors, arising out of and in the course of employment

For compensation to be provided, the mental disorder must be diagnosed by a psychiatrist or psychologist.

What circumstances will a mental disorder claim not be covered?

- A change in work or working conditions
- Discipline
- Termination of employment
- Workload and deadlines
- Work evaluation
- Performance management
- Transfers, lay-offs, demotions, and reorganizations

How to claim for a mental disorder

First, both the employer and the worker must report the claim as they would any other type of claim. Then, once the claim is established, an entitlement officer, who is assigned will take a detailed history from both the worker and employer. If the evidence supports the worker's claim, the entitlement officer will arrange/require a diagnostic assessment by a psychologist or psychiatrist.

Steps to take if I think a traumatic event or significant stressor at work has caused me to have a mental disorder:

1. Seek treatment. Be sure to tell your doctor, psychologist, or other treatment provider that you believe the mental disorder is work related.
2. Report it through CLEVR Employee Incident Report.
3. Report it to WorkSafeBC's Teleclaim Contact Centre as soon as possible. A representative will take the basic information and forward your claim to an entitlement officer.
4. Report it to your employer, principal, or supervisor immediately. Be sure to keep in touch with your employer; even if you're unable to perform your regular duties, your employer may be able to offer you alternative duties at your workplace.

Note: It is against the law for an employer to tell you not to report an injury, disease, or disorder to WorkSafeBC.