

Name of research project:	Preventing Falls in Construction Sites (PreFICS)
Background/Rationale	<p>From 2014 to 2017, falls contributed 29% of fatal work injuries. 66% of these fatal falls were due to falls from heights (FFH). Of these fatal FFHs, 62% were from the Construction sector.</p> <p>Based on the 800 Construction worksite visits conducted from 2014 to 2016 under the Safety Compliance Assistance Visits (SCAV) Programme by MOM, only 58% of worksites had documented risk assessments. From September to November 2016, 80 worksites were visited under the WAH Safety Mobile Clinics programme. It was found that supervisors had the mindset that accidents could only occur at big worksites and often workers were blamed for causing the unsafe work practices/conditions.</p> <p>These findings highlighted a strong need to tackle organisational/management practices and individual mindset, beliefs and behaviours, in order to address FFH risks.</p>
Study Objectives and Design	<p>The aim of this study is to understand the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Underlying human and organization factors which are perpetuating unsafe working at heights e.g. working where edge protection is sub-standard or missing, not using PPE; b) Why are existing Fall Prevention Systems (FPS) and Personal Fall Arrest Systems (PFAS) not preventing falls. <p>The study consists of a qualitative phase to determine the human behaviour and organizational gaps that contribute to work at height (WAH) risks. With insights from the study, practical solutions will be developed and tested to reduce WAH risks.</p>
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Collaborator/s:	Workplace Safety and Health Council