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TASMANIAN FOUNDATION  
FOR OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE INC.

# Workforce Crisis in Occupational Medicine

Over the last two decades, Tasmanian industry has been well supported by qualified Occupational Physicians (OEP's). Their service included advice on many topics including prevention strategies, occupational health risk, health promotion, education and training programmes, pre-employment systems, management of complex work injuries, occupational causation etc.

This service is now at risk. Out of six Occupational Physicians, only two are left in Tasmania. This compares with an average of one Occupational Physician per 100,000 population on the mainland. The two remaining Occupational Physicians will retire in the near future. Without training new Occupational Physicians, the outlook for Occupational Medicine services for industry in Tasmania is bleak, with service to support industry and business no longer available.

Historically, a significant portion of funding for Occupational Physician training came from industry. The Tasmanian Foundation for Occupational Medicine (TFOM) is seeking financial donations to fund its operations and TFOM Scholarships to directly support trainees. Donations are tax-deductible.

Collaborative arrangements for the engagement of Occupational Physician trainees (registrars) with donors can also be discussed. You are also welcome to call any of our TFOM Occupational Physicians for further information, or if you have ideas to help TFOM.

More detailed information can be found on the following page and on our website. I trust that your organisation sees the value of Occupational Medicine for our Tasmanian industries and will contribute kindly to this important cause.



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Occupational Physicians (OEP's) support business through their broad experience of organisations, workplace activities and associated risks.

OEP's are highly trained medical specialists. They can identify and evaluate workplace risks, clinically manage people with work injuries. They can identify and help implement preventative strategies and develop procedures to reduce morbidity in the workplace.

Most importantly, OEP's work with employers and other health professionals to enable workers to remain productive for as long as possible.



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