

## IRO Annual Sydney Seminar 2022

A focus on

# PSYCHOLOGICAL INJURIES and COVID-19



15 June 2022 | Aerial UTS Function Centre

### MORNING

10:00am - 10:10am	<i>Welcome - morning session</i>	
10:10am - 11:10am	<p><b>Panel 1: Psychological injuries at work.</b></p> <p>Claims for compensation for psychological injuries are on the rise. Panel members will explore this issue from all perspectives. Some of the key questions that will be answered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- why are workplace psychological injuries on the rise?</li> <li>- what are the causes of these injuries in workplaces?</li> <li>- what are the challenges in managing these claims; and what are the successful strategies that assist workers to recover and return to work?</li> <li>- how fit for purpose is the workers compensation system to support workers with psychological injuries, and what reforms are needed?</li> <li>- how do we make workplaces more psychologically safe, return workers safely to work and reduce the causes of these injuries?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Tracey Browne</b>, Manager – National Safety &amp; Workers' Compensation Policy and Membership Services, Australian Industry Group</li> <li>• <b>Natasha Flores</b>, Industrial Officer, WHS and WC, Unions NSW</li> <li>• <b>Jim Kelly</b>, Director Health and Safe Design, Better Regulation Division, Department of Customer Service</li> <li>• <b>Ruth Korotcoff</b>, Chief Claims Officer, icare</li> <li>• <b>Rebecca Neilson</b>, Project Manager, HPPS Prevention &amp; Mental Health, State Insurance Regulatory Authority</li> <li>• <b>Carmine Santone</b>, Principal, Santone Lawyers</li> </ul>
11:10am - 11:45am	<b>Assessing Whole Person Impairment – psychiatric and psychological disorders</b>	<b>Dr Julian Parmegiani</b> , Consultant Psychiatrist
11:45am - 12:05pm	<b>Aggregation of Permanent Impairment under section 66 Workers Compensation Act 1987 and section 322 Workplace Injury Management Act 1998</b>	<b>Michelle Riordan</b> , Manager Legal Education, Independent Review Office
12:05pm - 12:10pm	<i>Closing comments - morning session</i>	
12:10pm - 1:10pm	<i>Lunch</i>	

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### AFTERNOON

1:10pm - 1:15pm	<i>Welcome - afternoon session</i>	
1:15pm - 2:15pm	<p><b>Panel 2 - COVID-19 – workers compensation system impacts – past, present and future</b></p> <p>COVID-19 has had an impact on almost every aspect of the workers compensation system, with thousands of workers claiming compensation, and many others impacted in the handling of their claim and recovery. Panel members will explore this issue from all perspectives. Some of the key questions that will be answered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- how is COVID-19 impacting workers, and are they getting a fair go under in the workers compensation system?</li> <li>- what sort of claims are being made that are related to COVID-19?</li> <li>- what reforms to the WC system to adjust to COVID-19 has worked well, and what are the opportunities for improvement?</li> <li>- what are the possible future impacts of COVID-19 on workers, and how should the system respond?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>His Honour Justice Gerard Phillips</b>, President, Personal Injury Commission</li> <li>• <b>Geniere Aplin</b>, Chief Executive Officer, EML Solutions</li> <li>• <b>Michael Barnes</b>, Partner, Carroll &amp; O’Dea</li> <li>• <b>Veronica Black</b>, Lead Work Health and Safety Professional Officer, NSW Nurses and Midwives’ Association</li> <li>• <b>Jeff Gabriel</b>, Director Solutions, Independent Review Office</li> <li>• <b>Spencer McCabe</b>, Director Supervision, State Insurance Regulatory Authority</li> </ul>
2:15pm - 2:50pm	<b>Legal issues in psychological injury compensation cases – an update</b>	<b>Dr Juliet Lucy</b> , Barrister, Maurice Byers Chambers
2:50pm - 3:00pm	<i>Closing comments</i>	