

Occupational Biomechanics Symposium Speaker – CSB 2018

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Title of Talk: *Occupational Biomechanics in Military*

Abstract: Musculoskeletal (MSK) conditions plague the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and remain as the number one reason why CAF personnel are unable to deploy. Aircrew neck pain is a particularly problematic MSK condition, where incidence rates range from 53-85% among CAF aircrew. This presentation will demonstrate how techniques and underlying theory in occupational biomechanics have been applied to: 1) understand links between operational requirements and resultant mechanical exposures to aircrew, 2) inform and determine plausible injury pathways, and 3) to develop pragmatic interventions to mitigate aircrew neck pain.

Bio: Dr. Steven Fischer is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Kinesiology at the University of Waterloo. He directs research in the Occupational Biomechanics and Ergonomics Lab aiming to optimize function and performance in the workplace. Dr. Fischer has published 40+ peer-reviewed papers, presented 65 conference abstracts and has received over \$3 million research support. He has supervised 16 graduate students, where most of his graduates now work in the field of ergonomics. Dr. Fischer was the 2014 Major Sir Frederick Banting award recipient for Military Health Research, selected by the Surgeon General of the Canadian Armed Forces and in 2017 he received an Ontario Early Researcher Award.

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