

Alert



Outline the Scene	Incident	Cut to finger requiring stitches
	Subject	Contact with sharp objects
	Incident Date	24/02/2026
	Business Unit	Fletcher Living – CentralNorth Region

What happened?



A nog was covering the sheet joint of the flooring, and the IP needed to run the plumbing as close to the floor as possible to achieve sufficient fall. The IP was working in a confined space and, due to the restrictions, chose to use his non-dominant (left) arm to knock out the nog.

While removing the nog between the mid-floor joists with a hammer, the IP struck the nog once, causing it to move slightly. On the second strike, the nog released. The momentum of the strike carried the IP's left hand forward, causing it to come into contact with the Rondo "C" channel attached to the top plate. This resulted in a laceration to the middle finger and a blood blister under the thumbnail. The IP was wearing gloves at the time of the incident. He received stitches, and the blood was drained from his thumb.



We believe all injuries are preventable, here are some questions to help us learn



- 1) What other method could have been used to remove the nog?
- 2) Was there an alternative way to create the fall required for the plumbing? (e.g., lowering the ceiling)
- 3) Did we consider the risks when using non-dominant hands?
- 4) Was there a safer tool that could have reduced the force or momentum required? (e.g., carpenter's nail bar instead of a hammer)

For more information, please contact;

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