

NZ Safety Alert

5 June 2020

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe

Worker cracks tooth

A lab technician had to remove the lid that secures the sieves to a shaker. During the lifting process, the lid suddenly became free, making it slide up faster than anticipated and hit the technician's tooth.

The technician was taken to the dentist for treatment.



MinEx data on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the 30 months to Dec 2019 show 18% of all incidents (452 incidents) result from falls, 138 of which result from a fall of equipment.

You need to ensure that:

1. Appropriate lifting techniques are always used including where practical; a two man lift or the use of mechanical lifting devices.
2. All workers are trained and regularly assessed as competent in lifting procedures.
3. All activities are adequately supervised, including workplace inspections and task observations.

Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.