

# CHART 27

The BLS uses four characteristics to describe injuries and illnesses:

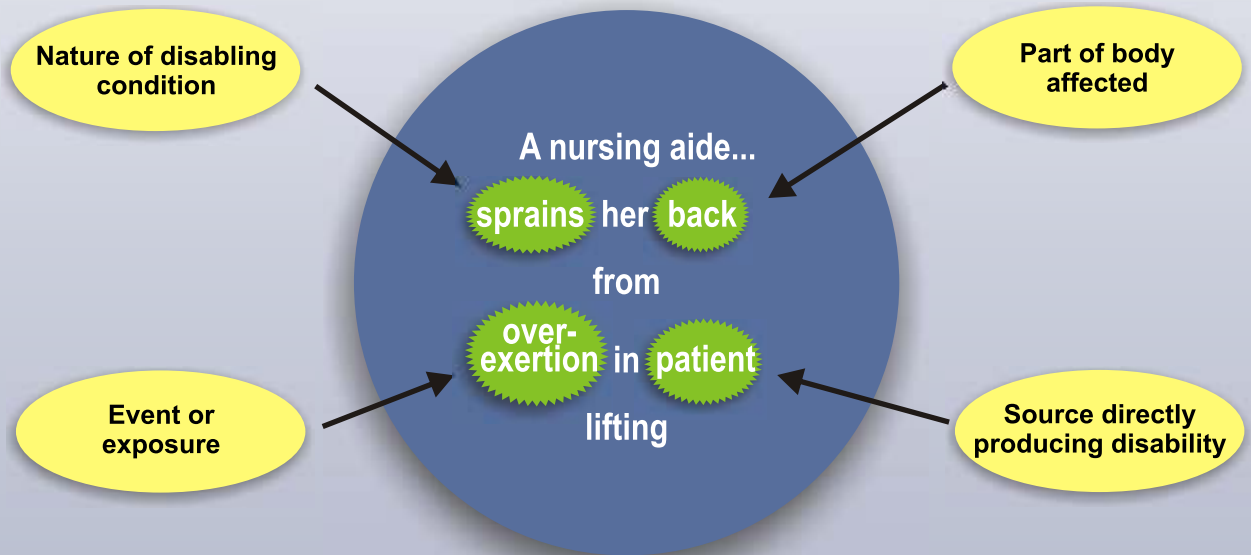
- Nature of injury or illness, or the principal physical characteristic of the worker's injury or illness;
- Part of the body directly affected by the injury or illness;
- Source of injury or illness—that is, the object, substance, bodily motion, or work environment that directly produced or inflicted the injury or illness; and
- Event or exposure, or the manner in which the injury or illness was inflicted or produced.

In addition, BLS reports median number of days away from work as a measure of the severity of the injury or illness.



# Injury and illness topology

Each injury or illness is described from four different viewpoints



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, November, 2006