

Risks Perceptions Associated with Solar Energy Installations: Survey Study

THE
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Jesse C. Duroha¹, Simona Trandafir², and Gretchen A. Macht¹

¹ Mechanical, Industrial & Systems Engineering, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881 USA

² Environmental and Natural Resource Economics, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI 02881 USA

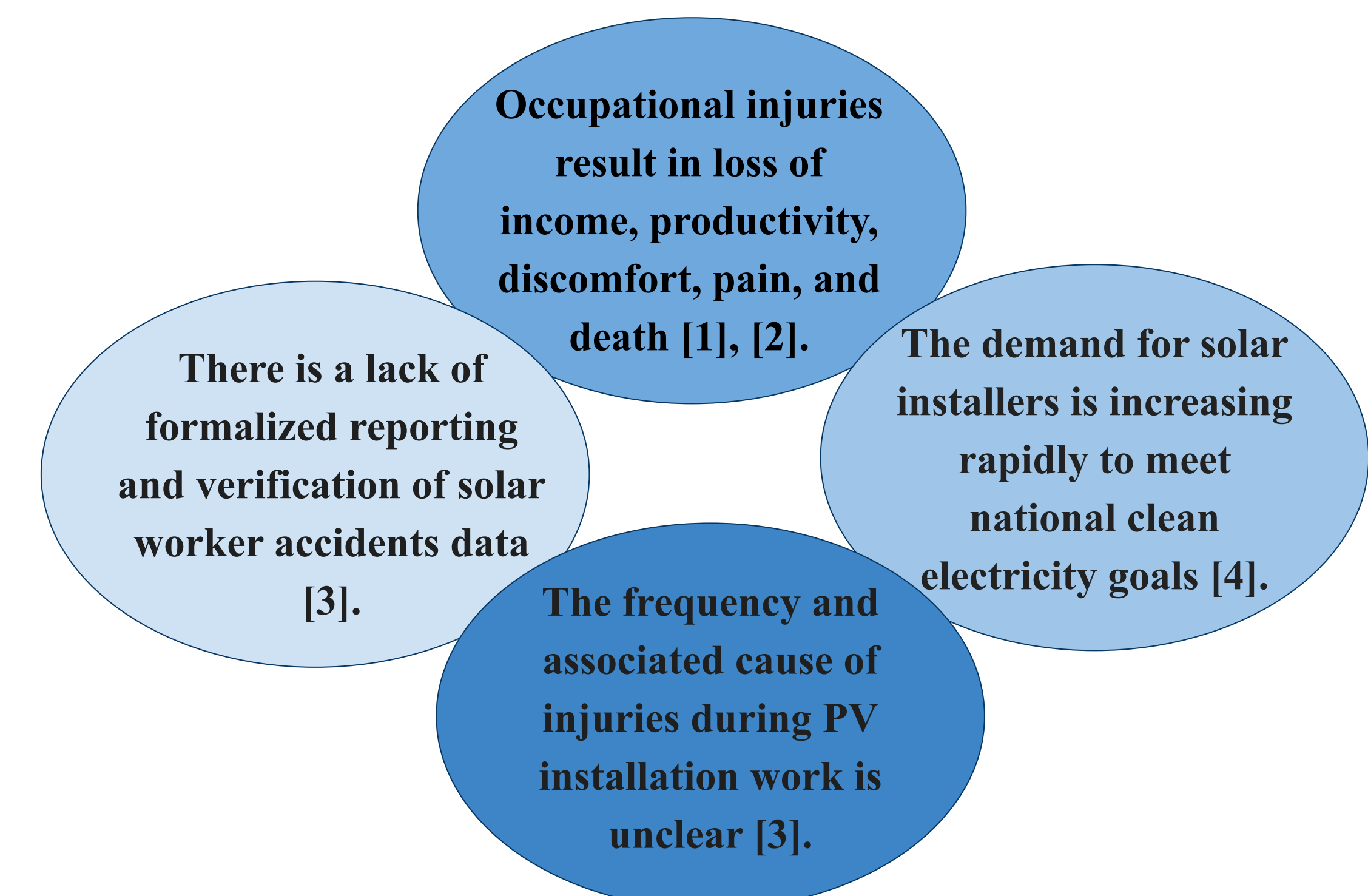


INTRODUCTION

The goal of this survey study is to capture and understand installers' perception of the occupational health and safety risks associated with solar photovoltaic installation work. Our research purpose is *not* to regulate or provide citations, but to understand installers conditions, and perspectives regarding solar installation safety. This survey includes questions about:

1. Installation type
2. Safety risk perceptions (severity and likelihood of risks)
3. The conditions that aggravate occupational injuries
4. Demographics Questions

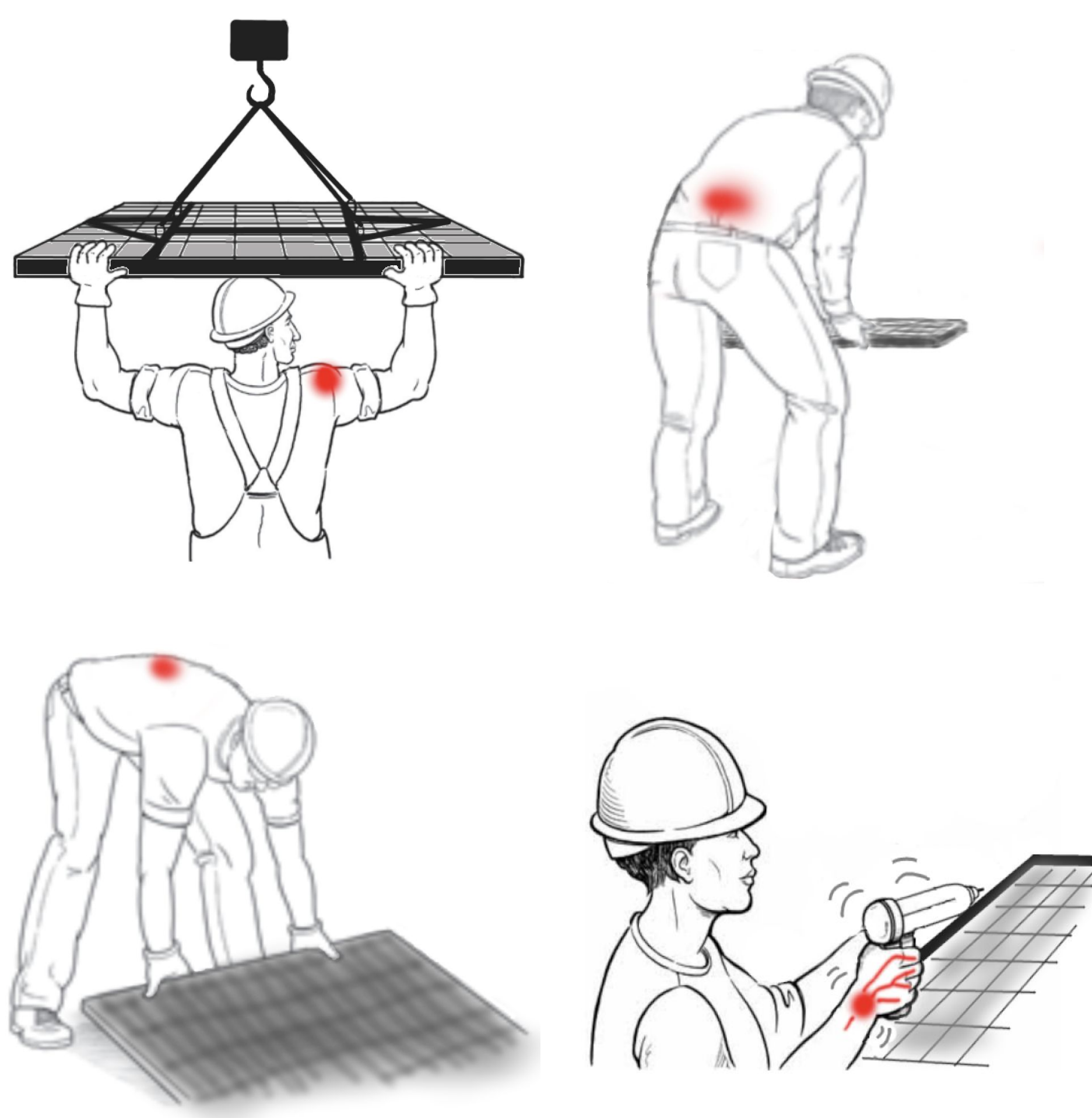
SIGNIFICANCE



COMMON SOLAR SAFETY RISKS INCLUDE:

Musculoskeletal Disorder (MSD) Risks

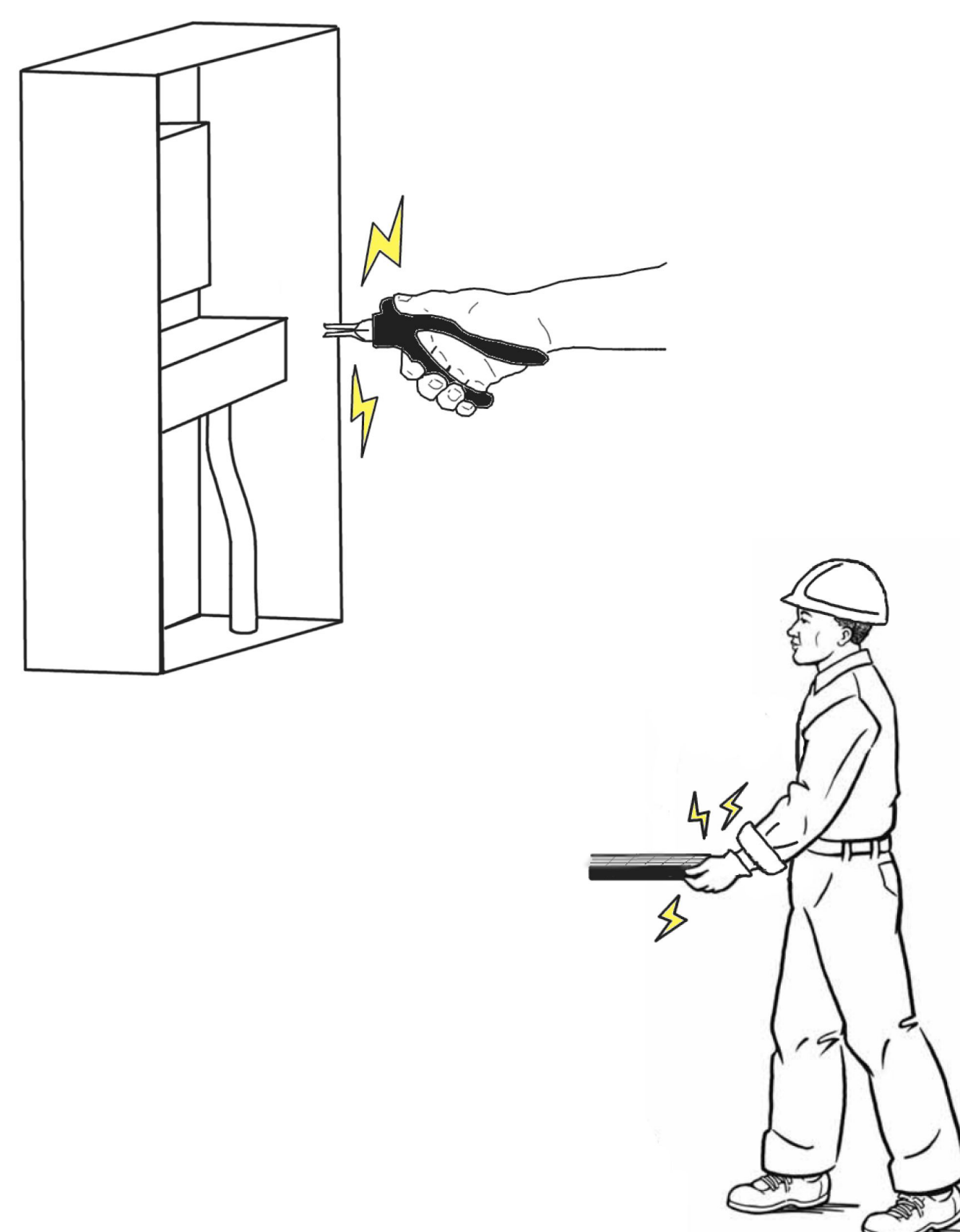
Sprains, strains, and soft tissue injuries [2],[4],[5].



Adapted from: [4], [5]

Electrical Risks and Hazards

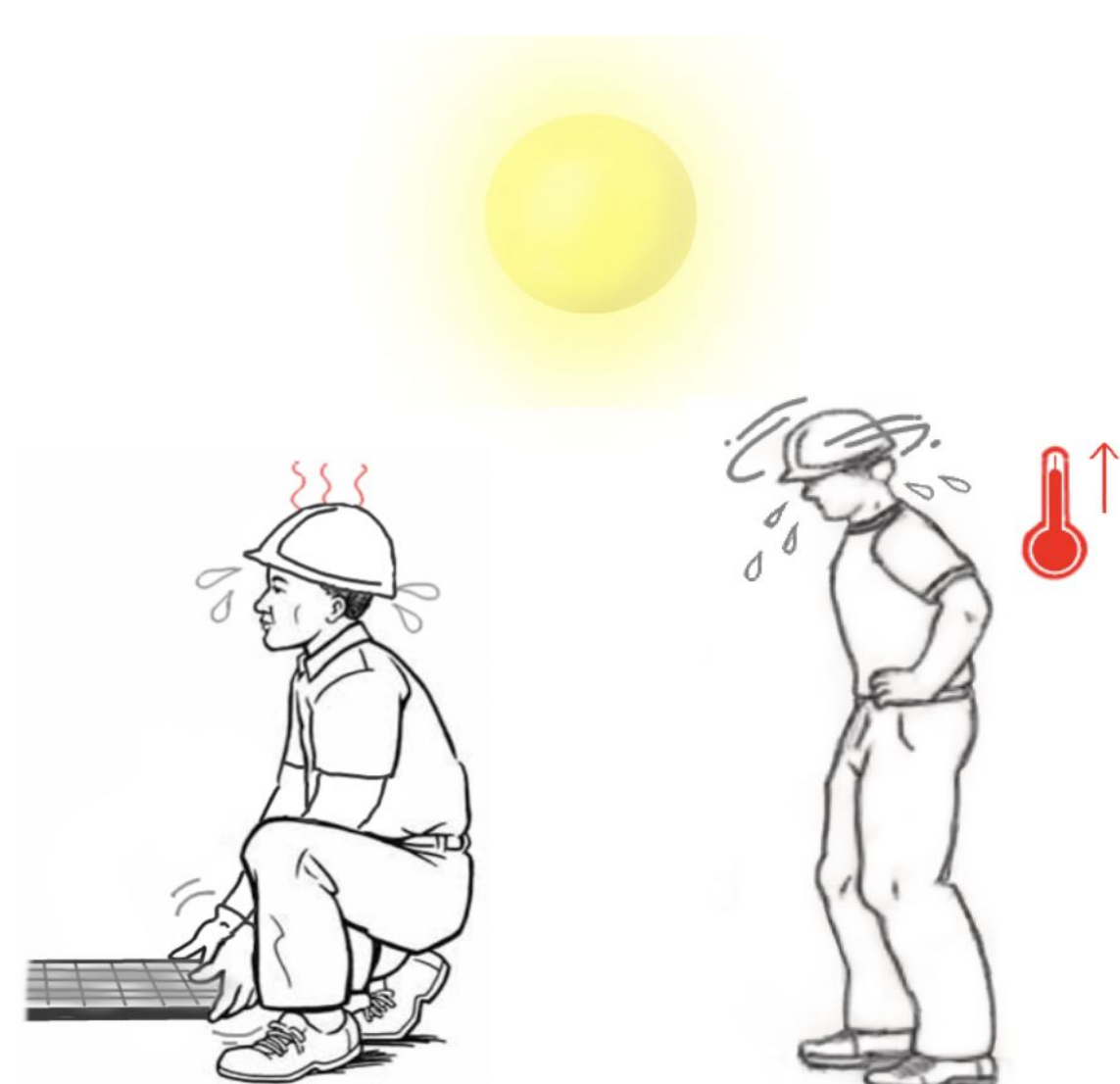
Exposure to shocks, burns and arc flash from electrical components and wiring [7].



Adapted from: [5]

Heat Stress

Heat stress can result in heat related illnesses such as cramps, exhaustion, and strokes [8].



Adapted from: [5]

Falls from Elevated Working Surfaces

75 % of fatal falls in construction involve ladders, roofs and scaffolding [6].



Adapted from: [6]

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ★ Any solar installer or professional is invited to participate in this online survey.
- ★ Survey is available from June 22nd - July 20th.
- ★ Chance to win \$100 Amazon gift card (online raffle).
- ★ **Participate in the survey using this link or QR code:**
https://uri.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ebcGllGthHMVrJs



Survey Details

- The survey will take less than 15 minutes to complete.
- All the information you provide will be confidential.
- Any published results will be summaries in which no individuals' answers can be identified.

This research has been approved by the University of Rhode Island Institutional Review Board. Please contact Dr. Gretchen A. Macht: macht@uri.edu with any questions.

CONCLUSION

As the demand solar installers continues to increase, the results of this research can provide a deeper understanding of the occupational safety risks, and aggravating factors present during installations (from the installers perspective). This research can further inform solar safety professionals, as they implement safety protocols to ensure safety and productivity on-site.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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