OSHA Trade News Release
U.S. Department of Labor
OSHA, Office of Communications

July 13, 2015
Contact: Office of Communications

OSHA directive updates inspection procedures for protecting workers from tuberculosis in healthcare settings

WASHINGTON - The Occupational Safety and Health Administration updated instructions for conducting inspections and issuing citations related to worker exposures to tuberculosis in healthcare settings. This instruction incorporates guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention report, "Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis in Health-Care Settings, 2005." The revised directive does not create any additional enforcement burdens for employers; it simply updates the agency’s inspection procedures with the most currently available public health guidance.

This directive also covers additional workplaces regarded as healthcare settings such as sites where emergency medical services are provided and laboratories handling clinical specimens that may contain M. tuberculosis. Other changes include: the introduction of a newer screening method for analyzing blood for M. tuberculosis; classifying healthcare settings as low risk, medium risk, or potential ongoing transmission; and reducing the frequency of TB screenings for workers.

According to the CDC, nearly one-third of the world's population is infected with TB, which kills almost 1.5 million people per year. In 2013, 9,582 TB cases were reported in the United States, and approximately 383 of those cases were among healthcare workers. Multi-drug-resistant and extremely drug-resistant TB continue to pose serious threats to workers in healthcare settings. TB infection occurs when a susceptible person inhales droplets from an infected person who, for example, coughs, speaks or sneezes. It is the second most common cause of death from infectious disease in the world after HIV/AIDS.

More information on hazard recognition and solutions for reducing or eliminating the risks of contracting tuberculosis is available on OSHA’s Tuberculosis Safety and Health Topics page.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.
OSHA’s rule on walking/working surfaces under OMB review

July 6, 2015

Washington – After more than two decades in development, OSHA’s final rule on walking/working surfaces to address slips, trips and falls is under White House review.

The rule, which would establish requirements for personal fall protection systems, was submitted July 2 for review to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. OIRA is overseen by the White House’s Office of Management and Budget.

OSHA first began publicly working on the rule after issuing a notice of proposed rulemaking in 1990. A second NPRM was issued in 2010.

The rule would revise existing walking/working surfaces standards by including new technology and methods intended to help reduce fall-related deaths and injuries.

According to the spring regulatory agenda, OSHA intends to issue the final rule in August. OIRA reviews are limited to 90 days but can be extended.

GHS Update: Next Deadline is December 1, 2015

Effective Dates

The table below summarizes the phase-in dates required under the revised Hazard Communication Standard (HCS):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Effective Completion Date</th>
<th>Requirement(s)</th>
<th>Who</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2013</td>
<td>Train employees on the new label elements and safety data sheet (SDS) format.</td>
<td>Employers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2015</td>
<td>Compliance with all modified provisions of this final rule, except:</td>
<td>Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 1, 2015</td>
<td>The Distributor shall not ship containers labeled by the chemical manufacturer or importer unless it is a GHS label</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1, 2016</td>
<td>Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.</td>
<td>Employers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transition Period to the effective completion dates noted above</td>
<td>May comply with either 29 CFR 1910.1200 (the final standard), or the current standard, or both</td>
<td>Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors, and employers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Palmetto Gold Nursing Award

In January 2002, a coalition of nurse leaders representing major nursing organizations in South Carolina met to discuss the formation of an annual statewide nursing recognition program that would both showcase the valuable contributions nurses make to patient care in our state and raise funds to endow scholarships for registered nurse students.

The Palmetto Gold Nurse Recognition and Scholarship program is a subcommittee of the South Carolina Nurses Foundation and provides the vehicle through which donations to the Palmetto Gold Nurse Recognition and Scholarship Program are received and invested.

The Palmetto Gold Award program recognizes 100 RNs each year who exemplify exceptional caring and commitment to patients, families and colleagues while also demonstrating leadership skills that promote the nursing profession. Awards are presented annually at the Palmetto Gold Gala in Columbia, S.C. The first Palmetto Gala proved to be a huge success in that proceeds from the Gala were sufficient to award a $1,000 scholarship fund to each of the 23 approved registered nursing programs in the state.

In 2012, the program celebrated its Eleventh anniversary. To date, over $232,000 in nursing scholarships have been awarded and an endowment established that exceeds $100,000.

Click the following link to go to the Palmetto Gold Website: [http://www.scpalmettogold.org/](http://www.scpalmettogold.org/)

Nominations are now being accepted for the Palmetto Gold Award.

The forms must be completed and sent to Margaretta Grimm
Margaretta.Grimm@nucor.com by October 23, 2015

Please go to the [www.scsaohn.com](http://www.scsaohn.com) webpage for more information including forms and instructions.

Below are links to those forms.

U:\SCSAOHN\palmetto gold forms\Palmetto Gold Tips.doc
U:\SCSAOHN\palmetto%20gold%20forms\2016%20Prof%20Nursing%20Org%20Nomination%20Form.pdf
Prescription Drug Use in Workers Comp

A new report by the National Safety Council examines recent court decisions in which injured workers died from an overdose of pain medications.

This report identifies:

- When opioid-related overdose is compensable.
- How to protect your injured workers from potential dangers of opioid pain medications.

How employers can reduce the risk of compensable costs associated with opioid use or related to opioid use

The complete report can be found at:

http://safety.nsc.org/workerscomp?utm_medium=%28none%29&utm_source=%28direct%29&utm_campaign=workerscomp

What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season

Some of the questions answered by the CDC include:

- What sort of flu season is expected this year?
- Will new flu viruses circulate this season?
- Will the United States have a flu epidemic?
- When will flu activity begin and when will it peak?
- What should I do to protect myself from flu this season?
- What should I do if I get sick with the flu?
- What should I do to protect my loved ones from flu?
- When should I get vaccinated?
- What kind of vaccines are available in the United States for 2015-2016?
- How much flu vaccine will be available this season?
- When will flu vaccine become available?

Note: The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) 2015-16 Recommendations for prevention and control of seasonal influenza were published in complete form in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report on August 6, 2015. The report is available at MMWR.

The current (8/7/15) VIS is available at

http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.html
Learning from the Past, Focusing on the Future: Achieving Excellence in Occupational Health Nursing

NCAOHN and SCAOHN Fall Conference

November 11 – 13, 2015

Embassy Suites at Kingston Plantation

Myrtle Beach, SC

Please join your NC and SC colleagues as we celebrate 60 years of occupational health nursing in our great states. This conference will be packed with sessions on occupational health regulatory issues to include updates on Workers’ Compensation, FMLA, ADA and Substance Abuse Testing.

On Thursday evening we will celebrate our anniversaries with a look back over the years. There will be food, fun, beach music and shag lessons!!!

On Friday Dr. David Weber from UNC-CH will present the latest information on Infectious Diseases and Roy Lewis will send us home motivated and rejuvenated for the next 60 years.

Registration

See last page of newsletter for registration form, complete, and submit back to NCAOHN

To Pay for the upcoming (Nov 2015 Conference):

- Go to the North Carolina Association of Occupational Health Nurses (NCAOHN) website
  - [http://www.ncaohn.org/](http://www.ncaohn.org/)
    - Click at the bottom of home page
    - Popular Items
    - Event payments
  - [http://www.ncaohn.org/jeventcal/paypal-menu.html](http://www.ncaohn.org/jeventcal/paypal-menu.html)
    - Directly to payment page
    - Choose correct drop down
Bylaws are our chapter’s LAWS, and must be followed! To remain an AAOHN chapter, some special requirements and wording must be included in our bylaws and we must follow what is outlined in our active/approved bylaws. If a chapter is not in compliance with its bylaws and fails to gain compliance, the chapter is at risk for inactivation by the AAOHN board.

Over the past few years the SCSAOHN Board of Directors has been working hard to bring the association into compliance. Declining membership and inability to obtain and retain members to serve on the board has made it necessary to change our current bylaws in an effort to gain compliance. Revisions have been made, sent to AAOHN and approved. The next step requires membership to vote and approve before these changes can take effect. Per the current active bylaws this voting can only occur at the annual meeting which will take place in the fall. Please plan to attend the Fall Conference in Myrtle Beach and this very important association business meeting.

Bylaw revisions are in the areas of: Reduction in headcount (officers and directors) on BOD, change from fiscal year to calendar year, state no longer divided into regions, and method for voting. Items that may need to change more often and are not essential to the chapter will be put into a Policy and Procedure manual or Standing Rules. Updating the Policy and Procedure Manual is currently underway. Items essential to the chapter remain in the bylaws, such as board governance, elections and members’ rights and privileges.

### Important Vote at Annual Business Meeting in November on Bylaw Revisions

References

- **OSHA inspection procedures for the Hazard Communication Standard**

- **Continuing Education Resources for Nurses**
Conference Registration Form

Deadline: November 6, 2015

Name __________________________ Email address __________________________

Company _________________________ Phone __________________________

Address __________________________________________________________________

City ____________________________ State ___ Zip __________

Chapter __________________________

Paypal is used for the convenience of paying by credit card. There is a $5.00 service fee for using Paypal. These fees are included in your registration when using a credit card. Please tally your fees and total them as indicated below. Remember to send this registration form to Jill Simons regardless of how you pay for the conference. To pay by credit card go to the NCAOHN website www.ncaohn.org and follow the directions for using Paypal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AAOHN Members</th>
<th>Non Members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed Pre-conference</td>
<td>$ 55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs and Fri Main Conf</td>
<td>$250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both Conferences</td>
<td>$305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment by Paypal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed Pre-conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs and Fri Main Conf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Both Conferences</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Retiree Registration Fee $ 75 $125

Student Registration Fee $ 125
(see definition on previous page)

TOTAL __________

Late Fee $25 if registering after November 6, 2015

****Even if paying online****

Registration form must be completed and sent to Jill Simons at the address below or to jill.simons@lfg.com

MAIL COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO: Please Make Checks Payable to NCAOHN

Jill Simons
Lincoln Financial Group
100 North Greene Street JP-15 Medical
Greensboro, NC 27401
336-691-4414 (ph)

Tax ID Number is 591718082