Improved Industrial Hygiene/Occupational Medicine Coordination-Next Steps

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Overall Goal of IH/Occ Med Coordination

- Maximize worker health using tools to optimize relationships between Occupational Medicine (OM) and Industrial Hygiene (IH).
Background

► Presentation (Siegel) at EFCOG IHS/OM Joint Meeting on October 22, 2015
  ► Worker enrollment in medical surveillance
  ► Communication between OM providers, ESH, managers
  ► Documentation of enrollment/disenrollment decisions
Background, cont.

10 CFR 851, Appendix A, 6 Industrial Hygiene

Coordination with cognizant occupational medical, environmental, health physics, and work planning professionals.
10 CFR 851, Appendix A, 8 Occupational Medicine

OM providers must have access to:

- Current information about actual or potential work-related site hazards.
- Employee job-task and hazard analysis information, including essential job functions.
- Actual or potential work-site exposures of each employee.
- Personnel actions resulting in a change of job functions, hazards or exposures.
- The workplace for evaluation of job conditions and issues relating to workers’ health.
10 CFR 851, Appendix A, 8 Occupational Medicine, cont.

- Health evaluations:
  - Initial and continuing.
  - Entrance/transfer to job with new functions and hazards.
  - Baseline exams.
- Periodic, hazard-based medical monitoring evaluations required by regulations and standards.
- Diagnostic examinations to evaluate employee illnesses.
- Occupational medicine provider communication of results of health evaluations to management and safety and health protection specialists to facilitate the mitigation of worksite hazards.
- Review of medical aspects of immunization programs, blood-borne pathogens programs, and biohazardous waste programs to evaluate their conformance to applicable guidelines.
Next step: Benchmarking Questionnaire with Task Team: Amanda Craig (LANL), Brad Lackey (SNL), Debra Nims (ICP)

- Will use National Training Center to help set up structure and content for the questionnaire, after this meeting.
- Draft questions are presented next.
Draft Question:

- IH coordination with cognizant occupational medical professionals
  - Does your IH staff coordinate with occupational medicine professionals? If so, how?
    - Yes
    - No
    - Comment field
  - Is the process formalized in a procedure or policy? If so, describe.
    - Yes
    - No
    - Comment field
Draft Question:

- OM provider access to current information about actual or potential work-related site hazards.
  - How are OM providers given access to current information about actual or potential IH hazards?
    - Authority within an IH exposure assessment and/or chemical inventory database
    - Email
    - Face-to-face with an SME or IH Program Manager
    - Regular meetings
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- OM provider access to employee job-task and hazard analysis information, including essential job functions.
  - How are OM providers provided job-task and hazard analysis information, including essential job functions?
    - Authority within an IH exposure assessment and/or chemical inventory database
    - Human Resources
    - Managers
    - SME or IH Program Manager
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- OM provider access to actual or potential work-site exposures of each employee.
  - How are OM providers provided exposure assessment information?
    - Authority within an IH exposure assessment and/or chemical inventory database
    - Email
    - Face-to-face with an SME or IH Program Manager
    - Regular meetings
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- OM provider access to personnel actions resulting in a change of job functions, hazards or exposures.
  - What process exists for providing OM providers access to changes in job functions, hazards or exposures?
    - None
    - Database
    - Email
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

OM provider access to the workplace for evaluation of job conditions and issues relating to workers’ health.

What process exists for providing OM providers access to the workplace?

- None
- Tours
- Regular walkdowns
- Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- Health evaluations:
  - Initial and continuing
  - Entrance and transfer to job with new functions and hazards
  - Baseline exams
- Do IHs communicate with OM providers for entrance, initial and continuing medical evaluations? If so, how?
  - Yes
    - Database
    - Email
    - Other
  - No
Draft Question:

- Periodic, hazard-based medical monitoring evaluations required by regulations and standards.
- Diagnostic examinations to evaluate employee illnesses
  
  - Do IHs have a role in defining content or providing information for hazard-based medical examinations, or when an employee illness occurs? If so, what is that role?
    - Yes
    - No
    - Comment field
Draft Question:

- OM provider communication of results of health evaluations to management and safety and health protection specialists to facilitate the mitigation of worksite hazards.
  - How do OM providers communicate results of health evaluations to management and IHs?
    - Database
    - Email
    - Other (comment field)
  - Do IHs use this information to mitigate hazards?
    - Yes
    - No
Draft Question:

- OM review the medical aspects of immunization programs, blood-borne pathogens programs, and biohazardous waste programs to evaluate their conformance to applicable guidelines.

- Does your OM provider work with your Biological Safety Officer (BSO) to do this? What are OM and BSO responsibilities?

- Comment field
Draft Question:

- Worker enrollment in medical surveillance
  - Who enrolls workers in medical surveillance?
    - OM
    - IH
    - OM upon recommendation by IH
    - Automatic enrollment based on job title or designation
    - Other (comment field)
  - How are workers enrolled in medical surveillance?
    - Online database
    - Email
    - As part of medical examination
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- Communication between Occupational Medicine providers, ESH, managers
  - How is communication performed between OM providers, ESH professionals and managers?
    - Online tool
    - Face-to-Face
    - Worker Safety and Health Teams/Committees
    - Email
    - Memo
    - Other (comment field)
  - What is communicated?
    - Enrollment/disenrollment decisions
    - Exposure monitoring results
    - Injury/illness information
    - Other (comment field)
Draft Question:

- Documentation of enrollment/disenrollment decisions
  - How are enrollment/disenrollment decisions documented?
    - In the OM Electronic Records System
    - In hard copy medical records
    - In an IH database
    - Other (comment field)
Other Issues for OM/IH Coordination

- Total Worker Health
- Wellness Programs
Thank you!
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