

HOW TO REPORT

Cases may be reported to MIOSHA by:

- ◆ Phone 1.800.446.7805
or 517.322.1817
- ◆ Fax 1.517.432.3606
- ◆ E-Mail ODREPORT@ht.msu.edu
- ◆ On-line www.oem.msu.edu
- ◆ Mail MIOSHA
Management and Technical Services Division
PO Box 30649
Lansing, MI 48909-8149

Please be prepared to include the following information on:

- 1) The disease or work aggravated condition being reported;
- 2) The patient's name, gender, date of birth/age, race/ethnicity, address, telephone number;
- 3) The workplace name, address, and type of business;
- 4) The diagnosing physician's (or laboratory's) name, and telephone number.

We are still interested in the report even if some of the above information is not available.

To find out more:

Contact Mary Jo Reilly, Coordinator of Michigan's Occupational Disease Registry at **1.800.446.7805** or email ODREPORT@ht.msu.edu to obtain information on specific conditions, reporting requirements, or for other information regarding the Michigan Occupational Disease Reporting Law and Registry.



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

MIOSHHA



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF HUMAN MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE
117 West Fee Hall ■ East Lansing, MI 48824

WORKER HEALTH SURVEILLANCE
FOR MICHIGAN



THE MICHIGAN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE REGISTRY

Since 1978, the state of Michigan has had an Occupational Disease Reporting Law (Part 56 of the Michigan Public Health code). This law requires physicians, audiologists, hospitals, clinics, and employers to report all known or suspected cases of occupational diseases, or health conditions aggravated by workplace exposures, to the state within 10 days after the discovery of the occupational disease or condition.

Examples of reportable diseases include:

- ◆ Work-related asthma
- ◆ Silicosis
- ◆ Noise-induced hearing loss
- ◆ Repetitive trauma conditions
- ◆ Pesticide poisoning
- ◆ Carpal tunnel syndrome
- ◆ Carbon monoxide poisoning
- ◆ Dermatitis
- ◆ Heavy metal poisoning, including lead
- ◆ Hypersensitivity pneumonitis
- ◆ Any other illness or condition related to an occupational exposure

The Michigan Occupational Disease Registry is authorized to access all records of health care providers, and all other agencies or facilities that provide services to patients, as well as workplaces.

Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration

(MIOSHA) has designated the Department of Medicine, Michigan State University (MSU) as its bona fide agent to assist in the compilation and reporting of Michigan occupational diseases. Additionally, all public health reporting that is mandated by state law, including Occupational Disease Reporting, is exempt from HIPAA requirements to obtain consent from the patient (HIPAA Act of 1996, Part 164.512).

Why does MIOSHA have an occupational disease registry?

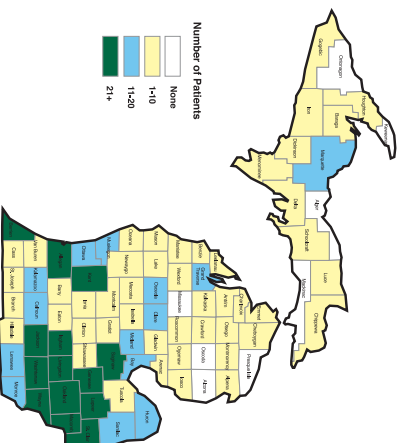
Workplace injuries and illnesses are a significant problem in the United States. It is estimated that 26,000 to 72,000 workers die each year from occupationally related diseases¹.

Condition-specific investigations of work-related asthma, silicosis, lead poisoning and noise-induced hearing loss exist, but there is still a serious underreporting of all work-related illnesses.

In Michigan, it is estimated that there are 30,000 to 60,000 new work-related illnesses annually, while only 15,000 to 20,000 of those are reported to MIOSHA each year. Each year, approximately 20-40 new cases of silicosis and an average of 141 new cases of work-related asthma are reported to MIOSHA. We estimate there are actually 97-184 new cases of silicosis, and 228-801 new cases of work-related asthma each year, which underscores the serious extent of underreporting in our state.

¹Steenland, K et al. Dying for Work: The Magnitude of US Mortality from Selected Causes of Death Associated with Occupation (2003). *Am J Ind Med.* 43:461-482.

Distribution of Confirmed Work-Related Asthma Patients by County of Exposure: 1988-2003



Who must report occupational diseases?

Michigan law states that any known or suspected work-related illness must be reported to the state.

This specifically includes:

- ◆ Physicians and other health care providers including audiologists
- ◆ Hospitals
- ◆ Clinics
- ◆ Employers

All data on work-related illnesses, including patient and employer identifiers, reported to the occupational disease registry at MIOSHA is confidential.

How will reports be used?

MIOSHA has designated MSU as its bona fide agent to track the work-related diseases that are reported. Further investigation may be used to evaluate the current conditions of workers exposed to chemicals and other substances in the workplace. By identifying and tracking work-related diseases in our state, we can guide future work to prevent additional burdens on the workers and workplaces in our state. The information collected through the registry is used to guide:

- ◆ Prevention
- ◆ Intervention
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Enforcement
- ◆ New workplace standards

For example, work site interventions have resulted in an average reduction of worker blood lead levels by 6.1 ug/dL in facilities identified through the registry.