

Occupational Safety and Health Course for Healthcare Professionals Including Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response

Purpose:

This 12 hour program will cover many of the current OSHA standards, with specific application to healthcare settings, including a special focus on Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response. This course will be beneficial to many employees and supervisory staff working in a wide variety of healthcare services and settings including nurses, first responders, EMS personnel, technicians, administrative staff, laboratory personnel, food service providers, housekeeping staff, engineering staff, and social workers.

Learning Objectives:

At the completion of this session, participants will be able to:

Introduction to OSHA

- Recognize the background and history of OSHA standards.
- Identify the role of the US Department of Labor and OSHA, the Code of Federal Regulations, and titles of the Federal Government.
- Discuss the structure of the OSHA regulations for General Industry.
- Describe how the purpose, scope, and process of OSHA regulations apply to healthcare settings.

Hazard Communication

- Recognize the purpose of the hazard communication standard.
- Describe the components of a hazard communication program.
- Discuss the application of this standard in healthcare settings.

Bloodborne Pathogens

- Define bloodborne pathogens.
- Recognize OSHA standards related to bloodborne pathogens.
- Identify employer responsibilities related to compliance with OSHA standards.

Personal Protective Equipment, Subpart I

- Identify the general requirements for personal protective equipment.
- Describe the requirements for eye, respiratory, hand, head, and foot protection.
- Discuss the implications of these requirements for healthcare settings.

Electrical, Subpart S

- Recognize the scope and structure of Subpart S.
- Identify the common electrical hazards in healthcare settings.
- Discuss electrical safety related work practices that apply to healthcare settings.

Walking and Working Surfaces, Subpart D

- Describe Subpart D general requirements.
- Discuss the most cited areas of the Subpart.
- Identify specific standards that relate to healthcare work sites.

Exit Routes, Emergency Action Plans, Fire Prevention Plans and Fire Protection, Subparts E & L

- Define key terms in Subpart E & L.
- Identify the basic elements of the regulations.
- Discuss the implications of these regulations for healthcare settings.

Ergonomics

- Describe the OSHA Ergonomic guidelines as they apply to healthcare settings.
- Identify potential ergonomic hazards in healthcare.
- Recognize practical solutions to eliminate and/or minimize ergonomic problems in the workplace.

Workplace Violence

- Define key terms related to workplace violence.
- Identify the potential risk factors in healthcare settings.
- Recognize the current OSHA guidelines as they apply to protecting healthcare workers from violence.

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness – Part 1

- Explain the history of pandemic influenza.
- Discuss the potential for pandemic influenza events.
- Describe the current pandemic situation (2009 H1N1 influenza).
- Define key terms related to influenza.
- Describe the usual methods of diagnosing influenza.
- Identify common modes of transmission.
- Recognize current treatment options.
- Discuss the possible impact on your health care organization when an influenza pandemic occurs.

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness – Part 2

- Outline key components needed in a Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan to secure continuity of operations in a healthcare organization.
- Identify the basic elements of a preparedness plan for your community and your family.

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness – Part 3

- Describe strategies that can be used to minimize the impact of an influenza pandemic on your organization.
- Describe approaches for supporting and implementing effective prevention strategies.
- Identify vaccine distribution processes and outcomes.
- Define employee exposure risk assessment related to healthcare environments and employee roles.
- List recommended measures to reduce the risk of exposure to influenza viruses.
- Discuss community and non-occupational exposures and mechanisms to minimize exposure.

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness – Part 4

- Identify the current reliable resources, including the websites for OSHA, flu.gov, CDC, WHO and other credible sources.
- Describe how to sign up for frequent alerts and update messages from these sites.

