MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE



Objectives:

Upon completion of this module, the participant will be able to:

- Identify the reasons for conducting a medical monitoring program.
- List the types of medical exams in a monitoring program.
- Recognize the employers' responsibilities.



Medical Surveillance

- Workers at hazardous materials sites may be exposed to different types of hazards.
 - Chemical
 - Safety (slips, trips and falls)
 - Biological (insect bites, poisonous plants)
 - Physical (heat, noise)



Medical Surveillance

- A medical program is necessary to assess and monitor employee health both prior to placement and during the course of work.
- A medical surveillance program is required by 29 CFR 1910.120(f) of the "HAZWOPER" regulations.





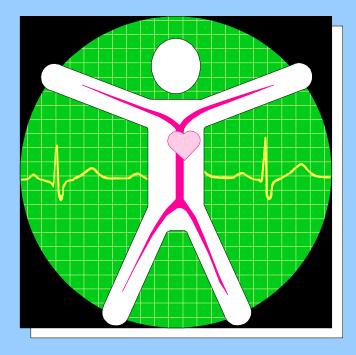
Medical Exams



- Baseline
- Periodic
- Termination



Why conduct medical monitoring?



- To establish a baseline of employee health for fitness for duty and future comparison.
- To periodically monitor and assess employee health in comparison to that baseline.



Who needs to be monitored?

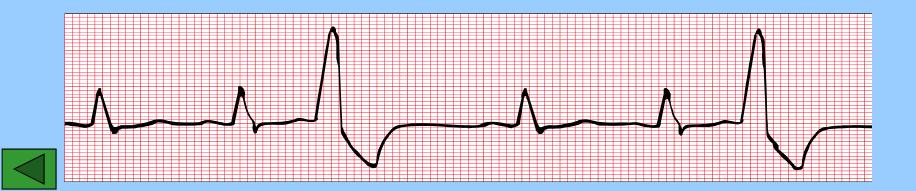


- HAZMAT teams.
- Employees who wear a respirator >30 days per year.

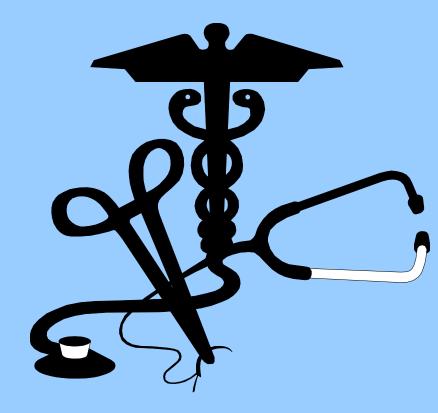


Who needs to be monitored?

- Employees who are exposed to PELs of hazardous substances
 >30 days per year.
- Employees who are injured or show symptoms of exposure.

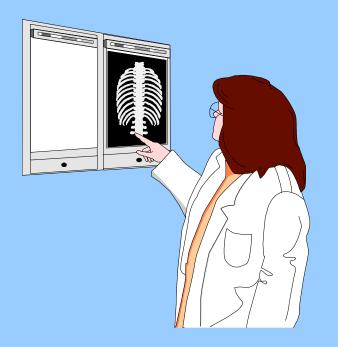


Baseline Screening



- Occupational and medical history.
- Physical examination.
- Ability to work while wearing PPE.

Periodic Medical Exams



- To look for early signs of adverse health effects.
- Specific testing for possible medical effects of overexposure.



What qualifies as an OSHA physical?

- Exams are **usually** done annually.
- Exams **must** be done at least every 2 years.
- Medical exams should be done by an occupational medical specialist.





The employer should provide the physician with:

- A copy of the OSHA and EPA medical requirements.
- Substance specific standards.

United States

- Info about employees job duties.
- A description of any personal protective equipment used or to be used.

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Occupational Safety & Health Administration

The employer shall furnish the employee with the following:

- The physician's opinion as to whether the employee has any detected medical conditions.
- The physician's recommended limitations upon the employees assigned work.
- The results of the medical examination and tests if requested by the employee.



Medical Records

- Employers must keep copies of medical records on file for each employee for a period of thirty (30) years past employment.
- Employee may have access to the medical records but may not hold the original copy.

