



VOSH PROGRAM DIRECTIVE: 06-002

ISSUED: August 15, 2000

SUBJECT: Designated First Aid Providers - Applicability of Bloodborne Pathogens Standard in General Industry

A. Purpose.

This directive transmits to VOSH field personnel an interpretation of the applicability of the bloodborne pathogens standard to the issue of designated first aid providers in General Industry.

This Program Directive is an internal guideline, not a statutory or regulatory rule, and is intended to provide instructions to VOSH personnel regarding internal operation of the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program and is solely for the benefit of the program. This document is not subject to the Virginia Register Act or the Administrative Process Act; it does not have general application and is not being enforced as having the force of law.

B. Scope.

This directive applies to all VOSH personnel.

C. Reference.

Not Applicable.

D. Cancellation.

Not Applicable.

E. Action.

The Commissioner, Directors and Managers shall ensure that field personnel understand and comply with the interpretation and application of the standard as detailed in this directive.

F. Effective Date.

August 15, 2000.

G. Expiration Date.

Not Applicable.

H. Background.

VOSH interprets §1910.151(b), concerning first aid requirements for employers in the absence of an infirmary, clinic or hospital in near proximity to the workplace if emergency rescue services are not available within a 3 - 4 minute response time, to require employers to provide employees first aid training and to designate at least one employee per work location and work shift to render first aid in response to an accident.

VOSH also interprets the following General Industry Standards to require employers to provide employees with first aid training, and to designate at least one employee per work location and work shift to render first aid in response to an accident.

- §1910.266(i)(7), concerning first aid requirements for employees engaged in logging operations (all logging employees and supervisors are required to be trained and therefore designated to provide first aid; with the exception that day laborers working for arborists do not have to be trained in first aid if they are not using machinery and are just doing clean-up work).
- §1910.269(b), concerning first aid requirements for power transmission workers (see §1910.269(b)(1) for specific number of employees required to be trained, and therefore designated).

Employees designated under the above standards to provide first aid are covered by the Bloodborne Pathogens Standards, §1910.1030. See VOSH Program Directive 02-400A, Enforcement Procedures for the Occupational Exposure to Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 1910.1030, for citation policy.

[NOTE: VOSH will not cite an employer when a designated first aid response fails to render proper first aid, or refuses to render first aid in response to an “exposure incident” as defined in §1910.1030(b).]

Jeffrey D. Brown
Commissioner

Attachment: None.

Distribution: Commissioner of Labor and Industry
Chief Deputy Commissioner
Directors and Managers
VOSH Compliance Staff
Cooperative Programs Staff
Legal Support Staff
OSHA Regional Administrator, Region III