

Controlling occupational exposure to tuberculosis

MIOSHA Directive No. 96-9, Enforcement Policy and Procedure for Occupational Exposure to Tuberculosis.

The Department shall develop plans and establish procedures to control occupational exposure to tuberculosis and other airborne pathogens to minimize or eliminate potential exposure by certain categories members in certain high-risk occupational hazards.

Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue shall have in place a state-approved Tuberculosis Exposure Control Plan designed to minimize or eliminate member's occupational exposure to tuberculosis and other airborne pathogens.

Requirements under this policy shall be reviewed annually and shall be revised with regard to the U.S. Public Health Service and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration recommendations and guidelines.

An updated plan shall be in place by September 1 of each year to reflect changes in the aforementioned requirements and to identify newly approved instructional programs covered by this policy.

Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue shall appoint an officer to monitor compliance with the State of Michigan's Tuberculosis Exposure Control Plan. This person may be either an administrator holding professional medical credentials or an allied health or nursing faculty member holding professional medical credentials with knowledge of infectious diseases and infection control practices.

The Fire Board shall approve Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue exposure control plans annually prior to the September 1 effective date.

The Department shall provide copies of appropriate excerpts from the CDC Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis and 29 C.F.R. 1910 Occupational Exposure to Tuberculosis Final Rule Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue information and compliance.

Procedures designed to address and ensure compliance with this policy are found in the Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue SOG

The general authority for Part 1910.1030 of Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations (C.F.R.) is contained within Sections 6 and 8, Occupational Safety and Health Act, 29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657.

Definitions

An occupational exposure to tuberculosis is defined as "exposure to the inhaled or expired air of a person with confirmed or suspected TB disease, exposure to a high-hazard procedure or an individual with suspected or confirmed TB disease and with the potential to generate potentially infectious airborne respiratory secretions."

An occupational exposure to blood borne pathogens shall be any exposure to blood or other potentially infectious body materials by a Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue member in an occupational-based setting as a clinical rotation or other work-site.

The state-approved exposure control plan shall be a comprehensive written document, which shall include those elements found in the U.S. Public Health Service; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines for Preventing the Transmission of Mycobacterium Tuberculosis in Health-Care Facilities- 1994, as revised and 29 C.F.R. 1910 Occupational Exposure to Tuberculosis Final Rule, 2000 (pending). This plan shall govern Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue activities when performing tasks or procedures that involve the potential for exposure involving suspected or confirmed TB patients in clinical settings or other OBI activities.

Covered Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue members are those identified by the Coldsprings-Excelsior Fire & Rescue SOP Tuberculosis Exposure Control Plan as having potential for exposure to persons or patients with suspected or confirmed TB disease in the normal conduct of duties.