

## An accident is...

...any unplanned and uncontrolled event that results in injury or ill health of people, or damage or loss to property, plant, materials or the environment, or reputation."

## An incident or near miss is...

...any incident that could have resulted in an accident.

## RIDDOR

This is the law that requires employers, and other people who are in control of work premises, to report and keep records of:

- work-related deaths
- serious injuries
- cases of diagnosed industrial disease
- certain 'dangerous occurrences' (near miss incidents)

You must still keep a record of accidents when a staff member is incapacitated for more than three consecutive days. This is a legal requirement under the Social Security (Claims and Payment) Regulation 1979.

## Risk Assessment

To ensure that accidents and incidents are minimised, employers have a duty of care to ensure risk assessments are completed and control methods are communicated with staff.

### There are 5 steps to risk assessments

- hazards
- risk
- evaluate
- record
- review

## Enforcement

### Improvement notices

- Discovery of an offense that is non fatal
- Given a set time scale to complete the actions required
- It is an offense not to comply

### Prohibition notices

- Cease notices to stop current practices following an identified risk
- Items can be confiscated or evidence taken
- It is an offense not to comply

### Penalties

- Magistrate or Crown Court
- Individuals and companies can be fined and/or prison sentences handed out

## Health & Safety Legislation

- Health & Safety at Work Act 1974
- Personal Protective Equipment 1992
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health 2002
- Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992
- Lifting Equipment & Lifting Operations 1995
- Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- Care regulations HSC Act 2008 / CSA 2000
- HS at Work Act 1974

## Serious injuries

- Fractures (not fingers & toes)
- Amputation
- Dislocation (not fingers & toes)
- Loss of sight
- Chemical burn
- Electrocutation
- Unconsciousness
- 24 hour hospitalisation
- Acute illness

## Infection control

Direct	Indirect
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand to hand</li> <li>• Hand to mouth</li> <li>• Hand to body</li> <li>• Coughing</li> <li>• Sneezing</li> <li>• Animal contact</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hand to surface</li> <li>• Food to surface</li> <li>• Clothing and bedding</li> <li>• Carpets and soft furnishing</li> <li>• Waste</li> <li>• Animals</li> </ul>
Control methods	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training</li> <li>• Hand washing</li> <li>• Waste management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PPE use</li> <li>• Screening and monitoring</li> <li>• Due diligence</li> </ul>

## CoSHH

Routes of entry	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Injection</li> <li>• Ingestion</li> <li>• Inhalation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Absorption</li> <li>• Eyes</li> </ul>
Short term reactions	Long term reactions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burns</li> <li>• Corrosive</li> <li>• Irritants</li> <li>• Breathing difficulties</li> <li>• Asphyxia</li> <li>• Toxic shock</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer</li> <li>• Tumors</li> <li>• Asthma</li> <li>• Mental impairments</li> <li>• Reproduction difficulties</li> <li>• Death</li> </ul>

## Manual handling

Means more than lifting or carrying something heavy it is used to describe a wide range of activities - Pulling, pushing, lifting, lowering, carrying, moving, holding. Also covers activities such as pulling a lever or operating power tools/hoists.

## Health and safety areas

- Infection control
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health
- Manual handling
- Electricity & fire
- Welfare & stress



## Main principles of lifting a load

- Stop, think and assess
- Place your feet appropriately to load
- Adopt a good posture
- Lift smoothly without jerking and jolting
- Move your feet and don't twist
- Keep the load close to your body
- Put the load down and then adjust

## Electricity & fire

### Main dangers from Electricity

- Unsafe equipment or installation
- Unsafe environment
- Unsafe work practices

### Control methods

- Visual checks
- RCD plugs
- Not overloading plugs
- Maintained and inspected
- Circuit breakers
- Approved installation
- Kite mark or E standard
- Correct fire extinguishers

### Fire precautions

- Clear all waste appropriately
- Do not overload stock cupboards
- Do not block corridors or doors
- Keep fire doors shut
- Test fire alarms and other devices regularly
- Know your evacuation procedures
- Have a "go" bag or box ready

## Welfare facilities

- Sanitary accommodation
- Washing and drying facilities
- Drinking water
- Changing facilities
- Rest and eating facilities
- First-aid provision

## Stress

It is important to recognise the signs and symptoms of stress and its effects upon the workplace. Symptoms can include the following

- Mood or behavioral changes
- Deteriorating relationships
- Irritable
- Indecisive
- Depression
- Loss of motivation
- Smoking/drinking/taking drugs
- Health problems, e.g. frequent headaches

### UK CHIP symbols



### International CHIP symbols



### Web links

[www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

[www.unison.org.uk](http://www.unison.org.uk)