

Helping workplaces to prevent hazardous exposures

Q: What is the Program for Exposure Incident Reporting (PEIR)?

A: This voluntary program gives employees and employers the opportunity to report an unplanned incident in the workplace that results in:

- a leak, spill, explosion or release of a dangerous substance, or
- unexpected contact with an infectious substance.

The purpose of this program is to gather information about the exposure while it is readily available, in case the worker becomes ill in the future.

Q: When should we report?

A: The exposure reporting forms should be completed when the worker does not become ill or lose work time.

Do not submit the exposure reporting forms if the worker needs medical treatment, tests or prescription medicine as a result of the exposure. Instead, fill out a Worker's Report of Injury / Disease (Form 6) and an Employer's Report of Accident (Form 7) and send them to the WSIB.

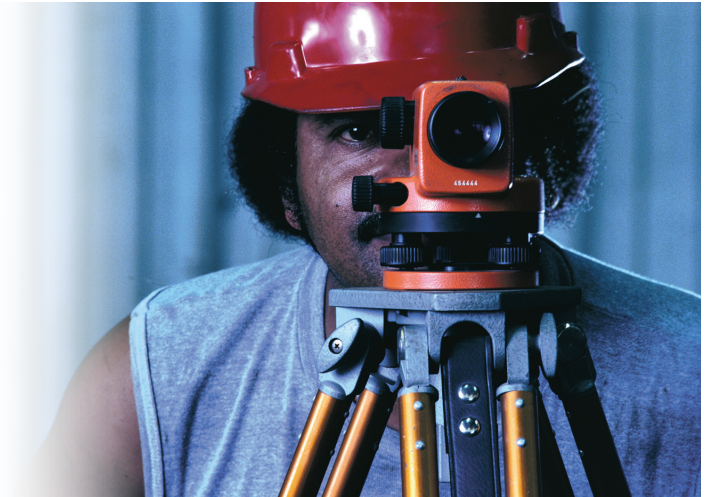
Q: In a workplace, there may be exposure to dangerous substances as a matter of course. Should an exposure reporting form be submitted?

A: No. This program is only for unplanned exposures. However, records should be kept on employees whose jobs involve regular, continuous exposure to chemicals and other substances. Contact your Safety Association for help in developing a recording program.

Q: Why should an employer take part in this program?

A: This program can help prevent illness through an open exchange of information. It gives you access to experts who can tell you what to do about unplanned exposure and other workplace safety issues.

The reporting process is streamlined and easy. You can report exposures by telephone at **416-344-1000** or toll free at **1-800-387-0750**; or by fax at



416-344-4684 or toll free at **1-888-313-7373**; or by mail. Only one Employer's Exposure Report form, listing all of the workers involved, is needed per incident.

Q: Why should a worker take part in this program?

A: The information about your unplanned exposure will be stored at the WSIB. If you need that information in future years, it can be easily retrieved, even if the employer has gone out of business.

Q: What information will PEIR store?

A: The WSIB will store the following information:

- names of the workers affected
- date of the unplanned incident
- location of the incident
- type of incident (spill, leak, rupture, physical contact, and so on)
- type of exposure (chemical, physical or infectious substance) and
- investigation reports.

Q: What happens to the information once it is sent to the WSIB?

A: The WSIB stores this information on behalf of workers and employers so that it can be used if there is illness in the future.

PROGRAM FOR EXPOSURE INCIDENT REPORTING (PEIR)

Example 1:

Mary noticed a strong smell when she went into the chemical storage room. She found a chemical container spilled on the floor. After that, her eyes and throat were sore for half an hour. Mary reported the incident to her supervisor right away. Then she filled out a Worker Exposure Report. The supervisor investigated the incident and sent an Employer Exposure Report to the WSIB.

Example 2:

Abukar's wife called his employer to say that he was in the hospital with meningitis. Ruth was one of many people who worked closely with Abukar. She became concerned that she might develop the illness and went to see her supervisor. The supervisor filled out an Employer's Exposure Report, listing all the workers who could have been exposed on one form. Each worker completed a Worker Exposure Report. The WSIB will follow up if anyone else gets sick.

Information

Workplace Safety & Insurance Board
Occupational Disease and Survivor Benefits
Program
200 Front Street West
Toronto, Ontario
M5V 3J1

Toll Free: 1-800-387-0750
Local Dialing: 416-344-1000
Website: www.wsib.on.ca

Exposure forms available on the website

