

Occupational Disease Reporting Questions & Answers

Who needs to report and what needs to be reported?

Under CGS Sec. 31-40a, physicians are required to report all known or suspected occupational diseases.* *This includes, but is not limited to:*

Cumulative Trauma Disorders	Carpal tunnel syndrome, Tendonitis, Epicondylitis, DeQuervain's disease, Vibration white finger, Hand/arm vibration syndrome, Thoracic outlet syndrome
Poisonings Due To Toxic Materials	Metal fume fever; Heavy metal absorption (i.e., lead, mercury, cadmium, arsenic, cobalt, chromium, nickel) Chemical Poisoning (i.e., acid gases, benzene, carbon monoxide, chlorine, formaldehyde, isocyanates, pesticides, vinyl chloride, solvents)
Skin Diseases and Disorders	All forms of occupational dermatitis, burns
Respiratory Diseases and Disorders	Occupational asthma (including Reactive Airway Dysfunction Syndrome [RADS]), Silicosis, Asbestosis, Pleural plaques, Hypersensitivity pneumonitis, Pneumoconioses, Berylliosis
Other	Noise disorders (i.e., occupational induced hearing loss, tinnitus); Disorders due to physical agents (i.e. heat stress, hypothermia); Eye disorders (i.e., welder's flash, radiation induced cataracts)

What are the reports used for?

- Disease surveillance
- Investigations of sentinel cases and disease clusters
- Educational activities

How do I report?

Occupational diseases are reported on the confidential *Physician's Report of Occupational Disease* form, which is obtained from the Department of Public Health. Completed forms are sent to the Department of Labor, where the reports are coded and then sent to the Department of Public Health for input into the Occupational Disease Surveillance System database.

For more information call the Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7742 or the Department of Labor at (860) 263-6900.