Part 2 Hazard Assessment, Elimination and Control

Hazard assessment

7(1) An employer must assess a work site and identify existing and potential hazards before work begins at the work site or prior to the construction of a new work site.
(2) An employer must prepare a report of the results of a hazard assessment and the methods used to control or eliminate the hazards identified.
(3) An employer must ensure that the date on which the hazard assessment is prepared or revised is recorded on it.
(4) An employer must ensure that the hazard assessment is repeated

(a) at reasonably practicable intervals to prevent the development of unsafe and unhealthy working conditions,
(b) when a new work process is introduced,
(c) when a work process or operation changes, or
(d) before the construction of significant additions or alterations to a work site.

Draft Recommended Changes 2008:
(**5)** An employer must provide a copy of the most current relevant hazard assessment to other employers that work on the site.

Worker participation

8(1) If reasonably practicable, an employer must involve affected workers in the hazard assessment and in the control or elimination of the hazards identified.

Draft Recommended Changes 2008:
(1) An employer must involve affected workers in the hazard assessment and in the control or elimination of the hazards

(2) An employer must ensure that workers affected by the hazards identified in a hazard assessment report are informed of the hazards and the methods used to control or eliminate the hazards.

Hazard elimination and control

9(1) If an existing or potential hazard to workers is identified during a hazard assessment, an employer must take measures in accordance with this section to

(a) eliminate the hazards, or
(b) if elimination is not reasonably practicable, control the hazard.

(2) If reasonably practicable, an employer must eliminate or control a hazard through the use of engineering controls.
(3) If a hazard cannot be eliminated or controlled under subsection (2), the employer must use administrative controls that control the hazard to a level as low as reasonably achievable.
(4) If the hazard cannot be eliminated or controlled under subsections (2) or (3), the employer must ensure that the appropriate personal protective equipment is used by workers affected by the hazard.
(5) If the hazard cannot be eliminated or controlled under subsections (2), (3) or (4), the employer may use a combination of engineering controls, administrative controls or personal protective equipment if there is a greater level of worker safety because a combination is used.

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Part 14 Lifting and Handling Loads

Equipment

208(1) An employer must provide, where reasonably practicable, appropriate equipment for lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling, and carrying, handling or transporting heavy or awkward loads.
(2) An employer must ensure that workers use the equipment provided under subsection (1).
(3) Workers must use the equipment provided for lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling, carrying, handling or transporting heavy or awkward loads.
(4) For the purposes of this section, a heavy or awkward load includes equipment, goods, supplies, persons and animals.

Adapting heavy or awkward loads

209 If the equipment provided under section 208 is not reasonably practicable in a particular circumstance or for a particular heavy or awkward load, the employer must take all practicable means,

(a) to adapt the load to facilitate lifting, lowering, pushing, pulling, carrying, handling or transporting the load without injuring workers, or
(b) to otherwise minimize the manual handling required to move the load.

Draft Recommended Changes 2008:

Safe patient/ client handling" means Assisted lifting, transferring and repositioning
Work site design

209.1(1) An employer must ensure that appropriate patient/client handling equipment is adequately incorporated in the design and construction of

(a) a new care facility;
(b) significant physical alterations, renovations or repairs to an existing care facility;
(c) new patient/client handling equipment in an existing work site or work area, including vehicles, in which patient/client handling occurs.

2) Subsection (1) does not apply to construction, alterations, renovations or repairs begun or equipment introduced before September 1, 2008.

Assessing manual handling hazards

210 Before a worker manually lifts, lowers, pushes, pulls, carries, handles or transports a load that could injure the worker, an employer must perform a hazard assessment that considers

(a) the weight of the load,
(b) the size of the load,
(c) the shape of the load,
(d) the number of times the load will be moved, and
(e) the manner in which the load will be moved.

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Draft Recommended Changes 2008:

Safe Patient/Client Handling

210.1(1) An employer must develop and implement a safe patient/client handling program, where workers are required to lift, transfer, or re-position patients/clients.
(2) The safe patient/client handling program must include an annual evaluation of effectiveness in preventing worker injuries.

Musculoskeletal Injuries

210.2(1) An employer must ensure that the potential for musculoskeletal injury is considered a hazard for the purposes of Part 2.
(2) An employer must ensure that all reasonably practicable measures are used to eliminate or reduce a worker's exposure to the potential for musculoskeletal injury in accord with Section 9.

Musculoskeletal injuries

211 If a worker reports to the employer what the worker believes to be work related symptoms of a musculoskeletal injury, the employer must promptly

(a) review the activities of that worker, and of other workers doing similar tasks, to identify work-related causes of the symptoms, if any, and

(b) take corrective measures to avoid further injuries if the causes of the symptoms are work related.

Draft Recommended Changes 2008:

Education and training

211.1 (1) An employer must ensure that a worker who may be exposed to the potential for musculoskeletal injury is trained in specific measures to eliminate or reduce the potential for musculoskeletal injury .
(2) An employer must ensure that the training referred to in subsection (1) includes the following:

(a)identification of factors that could create the potential for musculoskeletal injury;

(b) the early signs and symptoms of musculoskeletal injury and their potential health effects; and

(c) the use of those measures, including, where applicable, work procedures, mechanical aids and personal protective equipment.

Draft Changes to Part 2 Section 7&8
http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-LEG_ohsrev_part02.pdf

Draft Changes to Part 2 Section 14
http://employment.alberta.ca/documents/WHS/WHS-LEG_ohsrev_part14.pdf

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