

Occupational Skin Health Surveillance

A practical half day course
on skin health surveillance

This interactive course is aimed at health and safety professionals and occupational health professionals responsible for skin health surveillance. This course is for people who want to take a proactive approach to preventing occupational skin disease.

Learning Outcomes

- ★ Reasons and benefits of skin health surveillance
- ★ Basic knowledge of skin and occupational skin disease
- ★ Methods for skin health surveillance
- ★ Other benefits of skin health assessment
- ★ Working knowledge of the main skin health surveillance techniques
- ★ How to set up a skin health surveillance system

The Course

A recent HSE study into the prevalence of skin disease among printers in the midlands revealed that 35% of printers reporting no skin problem did in fact have an identifiable skin problem. Of these skin diseases a significant number were thought to be occupational in origin. This highlighted the level of underreporting of skin problems and the need for skin health surveillance.

The skin health surveillance course covers subjects such as:

Skin and skin disease – It is important when developing our skin health surveillance system that we have a basic knowledge of how the skin functions and what can go wrong.

Legal aspects of skin in health surveillance – Regulations such as COSHH and HSE guidance require that many organisations should have a properly constituted skin health surveillance system in place. Is your organisation one of these?

Monitoring effects of skin exposure – What methods are available? How and when to use them?

Using skin health assessment - What other benefits are there from monitoring the health of skin?

Questionnaires – why are questionnaires important and what do we need to include?

Visual assessment – what are the different techniques for visual assessment and when should we use visual assessment?

Skin condition measurement – What is this? How can it benefit the skin health surveillance system? What does it involve?

Setting up a system – Where to start?

We aim to provide participants with a good basis from which to develop an effective skin health surveillance system to minimise the cost of occupational ill health due to skin exposure.

The course is interactive with plenty of opportunities to ask questions, raise concerns and discuss issues in addition to the practical break out sessions giving delegates hands on experience with both visual assessment and skin condition measurement.



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Course content

Introduction

This section starts the course with a brief introduction of the course leader and what the course will be covering. We also like participants to introduce themselves at this time.

Skin & skin disease

In order to understand many of the actions we need to take and to avoid the myths of skin in the workplace it is important that we have a basic understand of skin physiology, the functions of the skin and the main occupational skin diseases (Irritant contact dermatitis, Allergic contact dermatitis, Contact urticaria). This section of the course ensures that all participants have this basic knowledge.



Legal aspects of skin health surveillance

This section is an overview of the legal responsibilities concerning health surveillance for skin. When and where we need to consider introducing a skin health surveillance system.

Monitoring effects of skin exposure

The use, along with the benefits and disadvantages, of techniques used to monitor the effects of exposure to workplace skin hazards.

Using skin health assessment

Skin health assessment can be used for more than just skin health surveillance. In this section we will look at the other ways in which skin health assessment can be used.

Questionnaires

This section will cover the benefits of using a questionnaire. We will discuss the information that we wish to gain and how we can use that information.

Visual assessment

This section will cover the techniques for visual assessment. There will be a practical exercise with plenty of opportunity to ask questions and discuss using visual assessment



Skin condition measurement



This section covers the use of skin condition measurement using equipment. We will look at the measurements that are important and how we can use them. There will be a practical exercise with hands on experience using a skin condition measurement device. Again there will be plenty of opportunity to ask questions and discuss the use of skin condition measurement.

Setting up a system

This section covers what we need to do to set up our skin health surveillance system. What should we do and when do we need to do it.

Summary & Close

In this section we will briefly view what has been covered during the morning with a last opportunity to discuss any aspect of the course content.

Timings

Registration and coffee is at 9.00 a.m. with the course starting at 9.30 a.m. We aim to finish the course between 12.30 and 1.00p.m. Further details on venues and prices can be found on the booking form.