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SafeTsmart
an Obsidium Company

The inaugural newsletter

Welcome to the inaugural monthly issue of the Obsidium SafeTsmart Newsletter! Our goal is to create a newsletter that is informative and engaging. During the coming months you will receive tips from experts, information about the latest health & safety trends, changes in legislation, and much, much more. We invite your questions, comments and tips.

This month we've noticed an increased number of clients ringing the service desk requesting information regarding serious harm incidents. This newsletter will focus on identifying serious harm incidents and what you should do if you have one.

What is Serious Harm?

Below is the definition of Serious Harm from Schedule 1 of the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992

Serious harm means death, or harm of a kind or description declared by the Governor-General by Order in Council to be serious for the purposes of the Act; and "seriously harmed" has a corresponding meaning.

Until such an Order in Council is made, the following types of harm are defined in Schedule 1 as "serious harm" for the purposes of the Act;

Any of the following conditions that amounts to or results in:

- permanent loss of bodily function
- temporary severe loss of bodily function
- respiratory disease
- noise-induced hearing loss
- neurological disease
- cancer
- dermatological disease
- communicable disease
- musculoskeletal disease,
- illness caused by exposure to infected material
- decompression sickness
- poisoning
- vision impairment
- chemical or hot-metal burn of eye
- penetrating wound of eye
- bone fracture
- laceration

- crushing
- Amputation of body part
- Burns requiring referral to a specialist registered medical practitioner or specialist outpatient clinic.
- Loss of consciousness from lack of oxygen
- Loss of consciousness, or acute illness requiring treatment by a registered medical practitioner, from absorption, inhalation or ingestion of any substance.

Any harm that causes the person harmed to be hospitalized for a period of 48 hours or more commencing within 7 days of the harm's occurrence.

What should I do if I have a serious harm incident?

Don't panic, ensure any involved person(s) receive medical attention, isolate the location of the incident and Notify the Department of Labour immediately by calling 0800 20 90 20 during business hours and you will receive further instruction. If you are unsure if you have had a serious harm incident, simply call us on 0800 446 829 and we can assist and direct you further.



For further information visit
<http://www.dol.govt.nz/>