

**WORKSAFE SERVICES DIVISION
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
LEGISLATIVE INTERPRETATIONS**



Topic	Notices - Accidental exposure	Issued by: V.P., WorkSafe Services
Statute	<i>Occupational Health & Safety Act</i>	Date Issued: June 10, 1999
Section	43(4)	Date Revised:

43(4) Where an accidental explosion or an accidental exposure to a biological, chemical or physical agent occurs at a place of employment, whether or not a person is injured, the employer shall notify the Chief Compliance Officer within a period of twenty-four hours after its occurrence.

Question

Does the requirement to report all accidental exposures include reporting a person who has been over exposed to an infectious disease?

Response

Yes, accidental exposure includes exposure to “biological” agents, which would include infectious diseases. When in doubt, it is better to err on the side of caution. Such reporting is equally important for compensation purposes, since the result of the exposure may not surface for some time. As a result, reporting should be to both the Chief Compliance Officer and on a Form 67 for compensation.