

WORKSAFE SERVICES DIVISION OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY LEGISLATION INTERPRETATIONS



Topic	First Aid Room Users	Issued by: V.P., WorkSafe Services
Statute	General Regulation 91-191	Date Issued: Feb 8, 2005
Section	12(3)(d)	Date Revised:

12(3) An employer shall ensure that a first aid room ...

(d) is used only for the purposes of providing first aid to employees or providing health care or instruction to employees.

Question

My workplace is open to the public and I already have a first aid room in case a customer gets hurt. Am I required to provide a separate first aid room for the staff at my workplace?

Response

The intention of subsection 12(3)(d) is to require that employers provide a first aid room that is dedicated to that purpose. This subsection prohibits an employer from using a room that is also used for another purpose as the first aid room. The employer cannot, for example, use a storage room or a cleaning closet as the first aid room. The first aid room can only be used for that purpose.

Some workplaces have regular access by members of the general public. Examples of this would include shopping malls and department stores. In workplaces where the public has regular access, the same first aid room that is used to provide first aid services for the general public can also be used to provide first aid services for employees. Subsection 12(3)(d) requires that the first aid room be used only for first aid; it does not prohibit first aid services being provided to other persons from that same room.

Although subsection 12(3)(d) does permit employers to use the same first aid room for employees and the general public, employers should consider that this subsection creates a regulatory requirement for this room to serve the employees. There is no such regulatory requirement for a first aid room for customers and other members of the public. As such, when planning the location of the first aid room employers should consider the hazards that employees face and locate the room so that it best serves the needs of the employees.