



# **Hazardous Industries Group**

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Health Surveillance

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# Health Surveillance

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## What is it?

**It is the ongoing systematic collection, analysis, and dissemination of exposure and health data on groups of workers**

**Health screening refers to the early detection and treatment of diseases associated with particular occupations, while workplace health surveillance refers to the removal of the causative factors.**

# Health Surveillance

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## Why do it?

HSE define Health surveillance as important for:

- detecting ill-health effects at an early stage (from workplace exposures), so employers can introduce better controls to prevent them getting worse.
- providing data to help employers evaluate health risks
- enabling employees to raise concerns about how work affects their health
- highlighting lapses in workplace control measures, therefore providing invaluable feedback to the risk assessment
- providing an opportunity to reinforce training and education of employees (e.g. on the impact of health effects and the use of protective equipment)

Industry includes Health Surveillance as also important for ensuring employees are healthy to perform a specific task

# Health Surveillance

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So what are we doing?

1. Regulation specific health surveillance
2. Pre-employment medicals
3. General Health Surveillance



# Health Surveillance

## Health Surveillance Life-Cycle

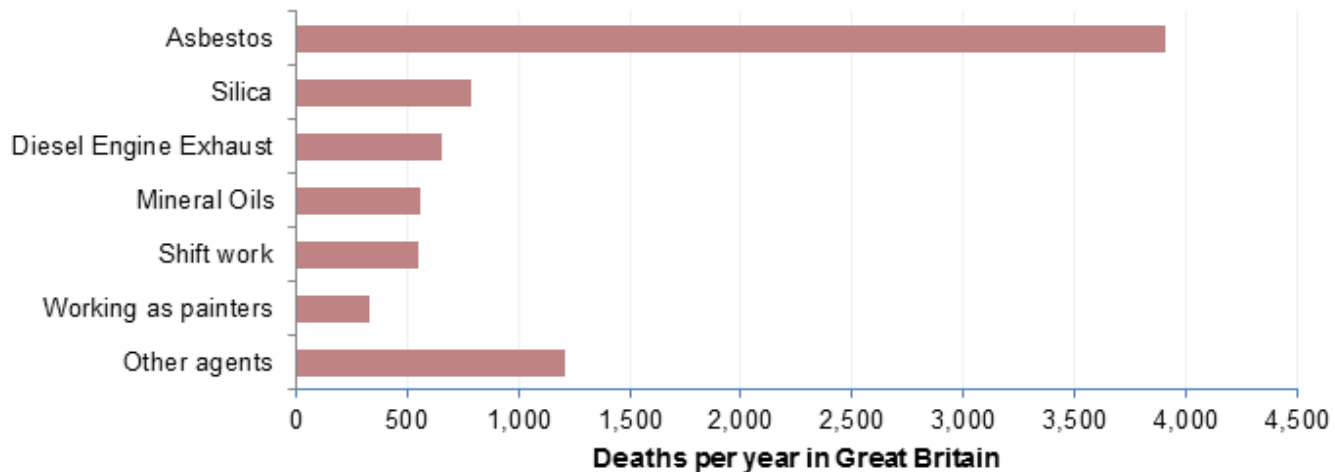


# Health Surveillance

## Risk assessment and Controls?

Fatal Occupational Injuries - 144 Workers killed in 2017/18 (RIDDOR)

Fatal Occupational Cancers – 8,000 Workers killed in 2017/18



# Health Surveillance

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## Do I need Health Surveillance?

Medical surveillance is a legal requirement for the following workplace exposures:

- Asbestos at Work Regulations
- Control of Lead at Work Regulations
- Control of Noise at Work Regulations
- Control of Vibration at Work Regulations
- Control of Substance Hazardous to Health Regulations (Schedule 6)
- Ionising Radiation Regulations
- Working in Compressed Air Regulations

When putting in place a health surveillance Programme, avoid blanket coverage for all employees as it can provide misleading results and be a waste of money.



# Health Surveillance

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What sort of health surveillance do I need??

## Self Checks

- Skin Condition - Dermatitis

## Supervisory Checks

- Skin Condition - Dermatitis
- Vibration White Finger - Vibration

## Occupational Nurse

- Vibration White Finger
- Respiratory/Lung Function – Respiratory sensitizers
- Blood Tests

## Occupational Physician

- Statutory medical Surveillance – any regulation medical

# Health Surveillance

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Set up and design health surveillance according to need?

- Involve your employees (& Safety Reps)
- Appoint a responsible person within your business
- Appoint a competent medical professional (where appropriate)
  
- FOM Guidance – An employer’s guide to  
engaging an occupational health physician.
  
- SEQOSH Accreditation

**SEQOHS**  
Safe Effective Quality Occupational Health Service



# Health Surveillance

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Identify who will do health surveillance?

Self Checks

Supervisory Checks

Occupational Nurse

Occupational Physician

The logo for SEQOHS features the acronym in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. The letters 'S', 'E', 'Q', and 'H' are a darker blue, while the 'O's are a lighter, medium blue. The letters are closely spaced and have a slight shadow effect.

Safe Effective Quality Occupational Health Service

# Health Surveillance

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Implement health surveillance for those that need it?

- Consider –
- Logistics and suitable location
- Booking / Scheduling appointments
- Manage attendance / non-attendance
- Record attendance/outcomes
- Create culture of value

# Health Surveillance

Manage performance & interpret the results, act on the results?

## Performance Measures:

- Health Surveillance completed for each employee
- Service utilisation – appointments used/missed

## Interpret results

- Pass/Fail results
- Messel Maps to identify sources / tasks
- Trends/ Epidemiology
- Investigations

## Act on results

- Review risk assessment & controls



# Health Surveillance

Health Surveillance Life-Cycle – it is not a one off!

