14 Sep 2012

All practising Designated Workplace Doctors

Dear Doctor,

MEDICAL EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR VECTOR CONTROL TECHNICIANS AND WORKERS UNDER THE WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH (MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS) REGULATIONS

1 Vector control technicians (VCTs) and workers (VCWs) are licensed by National Environment Agency (NEA) and with effect from 1 January 2013, the NEA will no longer require licensees or new applicants to submit their red blood cell acetylcholinesterase (rbc AchE) test results as part of their applications.

2 However, vector control technicians and workers who are exposed to organophosphates (OPs) have to undergo the required medical examinations under the WSH (Medical Examinations) Regulations as the Workplace Safety and Health Act (WSHA) has since 1 Sep 2011 been extended to cover all workplaces. This includes a clinical examination for effects of exposure to organophosphates and a laboratory test for red blood cell acetylcholinesterase (rbc AchE) conducted at pre-placement and at 6-monthly intervals.

3 The medical examinations under the WSH (Medical Examinations) Regulations are to be conducted by Designated Workplace Doctors who are also required to give each worker a report of examinations and a copy of the laboratory results.

4 The Summary Report of Examinations and Register of workers exposed to OP will need to be completed and submitted with copies of the laboratory results to the Occupational Safety and Health Division, Ministry of Manpower, 1500 Bendemeer Road, #03-02 S339946. Online submissions are welcome at www.mom.gov.sg with immediate effect.

5 During this interim period and till 31 Dec 2012, submissions of the rbc AchE results to the NEA and the Summary Report and Register of workers to Ministry of Manpower is required whenever the periodic medical examinations are due or when pre-placement medical examinations are conducted.
6 DWDs are reminded that copies of the Summary Report of Examinations, Register of Workers exposed and laboratory results have to be given to employers who are required to keep these records for at least 5 years.

7 The above forms can be downloaded from the MOM’s website at http://www.mom.gov.sg/services-forms/workplace-safety-health/Pages/medical-monitoring.aspx

8 Guidance on medical examinations for exposure to OPs and actions required of Designated Workplace Doctors is available in the WSH guidelines on statutory medical examinations at www.wshc.sg

9 You may contact Dr Lucy Leong at 6692 5067 or email her at Lucy_Leong@mom.gov.sg if you need any clarifications.

Yours faithfully,

Dr Kenneth Choy
for COMMISSIONER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND HEALTH
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION
MINISTRY OF MANPOWER

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