



# RIDDOR

Information for doctors



**REPORTING** *of* **INJURIES, DISEASES** *and*  
**DANGEROUS OCCURRENCES REGULATIONS**

## **The new Regulations**

The Reporting of Injuries Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995 (RIDDOR) came into effect on 1 April 1996. The Regulations only apply to England, Scotland and Wales (Northern Ireland will develop similar proposals at a later date). They replace the 1985 RIDDOR Regulations. As with the old RIDDOR Regulations, the responsibility for reporting cases of work-related disease rests primarily with employers and the self-employed. Reports are submitted to the health and safety enforcing authorities and the information used to target action to improve ill health prevention and control.

This leaflet outlines the requirements and explains how doctors can help those who have to make reports of occupational ill health.

## **How does the system of disease reporting operate?**

The diseases which are reportable are listed on pages 4-15. The types of work activity set out alongside the diseases are those where that disease is a recognised risk. An employer or self-employed person has to report a listed case of disease when:



it has been diagnosed in writing by a doctor;



the person concerned is currently employed in an associated work activity.

A report of a case of disease will not necessarily signify that it was caused by work; it will mean that the person affected works in a job where in general the disease is likely to have an occupational origin.

## **How can doctors help?**

Employers have to report cases of disease only if they have received a written diagnosis from a doctor. A self-employed person need only be informed by a doctor that they are suffering from a scheduled disease to make it reportable.

Doctors therefore play an important role in the occupational disease reporting system.

It is important for both employers and the self-employed that any reportable diseases can be easily identified, for instance from the medical certificates or correspondence they receive.

Doctors can help considerably in this process by using the precise description of the disease listed so that the employer will be able to identify immediately whether the case of disease is reportable.

### **Confidentiality**

There may be circumstances when it would be inappropriate to disclose information about an employee's condition or to pass it on to their employer. The reporting system introduced by RIDDOR '95 contains nothing to alter this aspect of the normal ethical considerations in the doctor-patient relationship. However, in such circumstances the doctor, with the patient's agreement, might be prepared to pass information to another practitioner either in an occupational health service (where one exists at the employee's place of work) or direct to HSE's Employment Medical Advisory Service.

### **Further information**

Further guidance and information on RIDDOR '95 is available on the list of suggested reading on page 18. The Employment Medical Advisory Service is also available to answer questions on the reporting of diseases or any other aspects of occupational ill-health (for addresses and telephone numbers, see the list on page 16).

Doctors are encouraged to consider the possibility of links between the ailments presented by patients and the health risks associated with the types of work they do.

## **Reportable diseases from Schedule 3 of the Regulations**

### **Occupational diseases**

*Conditions due to physical agents and physical demands of work*

1 Inflammation, ulceration or malignant disease of the skin due to ionising radiation.

2 Malignant disease of the bones due to ionising radiation.

3 Blood dyscrasia due to ionising radiation.

Activity: Work with ionising radiation.

4 Cataract due to electromagnetic radiation.

Activity: Work involving exposure to electromagnetic radiation (including radiant heat).

5 Decompression illness.

6 Barotrauma resulting in lung or other organ damage.

7 Dysbaric osteonecrosis.

Activity: Work involving breathing gases at increased pressure (including diving).

8 Cramp of the hand or forearm due to repetitive movements.

Activity: Work involving prolonged periods of handwriting, typing or other repetitive movements of the fingers, hand or arm.

9 Subcutaneous cellulitis of the hand (beat hand).

Activity: Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure on the hand.

10 Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis arising at or about the knee due to severe or prolonged external friction or pressure at or about the knee (beat knee).

Activity: Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure at or about the knee.

11 Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis arising at or about the elbow due to severe or prolonged external friction or pressure at or about the elbow (beat elbow).

Activity: Physically demanding work causing severe or prolonged friction or pressure at or about the elbow.

12 Traumatic inflammation of the tendons of the hand or forearm or of the associated tendon sheaths.

Activity: Physically demanding work, frequent or repeated movements, constrained postures or extremes of extension or flexion of the hand or wrist.

13 Carpal tunnel syndrome.

Activity: Work involving the use of hand-held vibrating tools.

14 Hand-arm vibration syndrome.

Activity: Work involving:

- (a) the use of chain saws, brush cutters or hand-held or hand-fed circular saws in forestry or woodworking;
- (b) the use of hand-held rotary tools in grinding material or in sanding or polishing metal;
- (c) the holding of material being ground or metal being sanded or polished by rotary tools;
- (d) the use of hand-held percussive metal-working tools or the holding of metal being worked upon by percussive tools in connection with riveting, caulking, chipping, hammering, fettling or swaging;
- (e) the use of hand-held powered percussive drills or hand-held powered percussive hammers in mining, quarrying or demolition, or on roads or footpaths (including road construction); or
- (f) the holding of material being worked upon by pounding machines in shoe manufacture.

*Infections due to biological agents*

15 Anthrax.

Activity: (a) work involving handling infected animals, their products or packaging containing infected material; or  
(b) work on infected sites.

16 Brucellosis.

Activity: Work involving contact with:  
(a) animals or their carcasses (including any parts thereof) infected by brucella or the untreated products of same; or  
(b) laboratory specimens or vaccines of or containing brucella.

17 (a) Avian chlamydiosis

Activity: Work involving contact with birds infected with chlamydia psittaci, or the remains or untreated products of such birds.

(b) Ovine chlamydiosis.

Activity: Work involving contact with sheep infected with chlamydia psittaci or the remains or untreated products of such sheep.

18 Hepatitis.

Activity: Work involving contact with:  
(a) human blood or human blood products; or  
(b) any source of viral hepatitis.

19 Legionellosis.

Activity: Work on or near cooling systems which are located in the workplace and use water; or work on hot water service systems located in the workplace which are likely to be a source of contamination.

20 Leptospirosis.

Activity: (a) Work in places which are or are liable to be infested by rats, fieldmice, voles or other small mammals;

20	Leptospirosis (continued).
Activity:	(b) work at dog kennels or involving the care or handling of dogs; or (c) work involving contact with bovine animals or their meat products or pigs or their meat products.
21	Lyme disease.
Activity:	Work involving exposure to ticks (including in particular work by forestry workers, rangers, dairy farmers, game keepers and other persons engaged in countryside management).
22	Q fever.
Activity:	Work involving contact with animals, their remains or their untreated products.
23	Rabies.
Activity:	Work involving handling or contact with infected animals.
24	Streptococcus suis.
Activity:	Work involving contact with pigs infected with streptococcus suis, or with the carcasses, products or residues of pigs so affected.
25	Tetanus.
Activity:	Work involving contact with soil likely to be contaminated by animals.
26	Tuberculosis.
Activity:	Work with persons, animals, human or animal remains or any other material which might be a source of infection.
27	Any infection reliably attributable to the performance of the work specified in the entry opposite hereto.
Activity:	Work with micro-organisms; work with live or dead human beings in the course of providing any treatment or service or in conducting any investigation involving exposure to blood or body fluids; work with animals or any potentially infected material derived from any of the above.

*Conditions due to substances*

- 28 Poisonings by any of the following:
- (a) acrylamide monomer;
  - (b) arsenic or one of its compounds;
  - (c) benzene or a homologue of benzene;
  - (d) beryllium or one of its compounds;
  - (e) cadmium or one of its compounds;
  - (f) carbon disulphide;
  - (g) diethylene dioxide (dioxan);
  - (h) ethylene oxide;
  - (i) lead or one of its compounds;
  - (j) manganese or one of its compounds;
  - (k) mercury or one of its compounds;
  - (l) methyl bromide;
  - (m) nitrochlorobenzene, or a nitro- or amino- or chloro-derivative of benzene or of a homologue of benzene;
  - (n) oxides of nitrogen;
  - (o) phosphorus or one of its compounds.

Activity: Any activity.

29 Cancer of a bronchus or lung.

- Activity:
- (a) Work in or about a building where nickel is produced by decomposition of a gaseous nickel compound or where any industrial process which is ancillary or incidental to that process is carried on; or
  - (b) work involving exposure to bis(chloromethyl) ether or any electrolytic chromium processes (excluding passivation) which involve hexavalent chromium compounds, chromate production or zinc chromate pigment manufacture.

30 Primary carcinoma of the lung where there is accompanying evidence of silicosis.

Activity: Any occupation in:

- (a) glass manufacture;
- (b) sandstone tunnelling or quarrying;
- (c) the pottery industry;
- (d) metal ore mining;
- (e) slate quarrying or slate production;
- (f) clay mining;
- (g) the use of siliceous materials as abrasives;
- (h) foundry work;
- (i) granite tunnelling or quarrying; or
- (j) stone cutting or masonry.

31 Cancer of the urinary tract.

Activity: 1 Work involving exposure to any of the following substances:

- (a) beta-naphthylamine or methylene-bis-orthochloroaniline;
- (b) diphenyl substituted by at least one nitro or primary amino group or by at least one nitro and primary amino group (including benzidine);
- (c) any of the substances mentioned in sub-paragraph (b) above if further ring substituted by halogeno, methyl or methoxy groups, but not by other groups; or
- (d) the salts of any of the substances mentioned in sub-paragraphs (a) to (c) above.

Activity: 2 The manufacture of auramine or magenta.

32 Bladder cancer.

Activity: Work involving exposure to aluminium smelting using the Soderberg process.

33 Angiosarcoma of the liver.

- Activity: (a) Work in or about machinery or apparatus used for the polymerisation of vinyl chloride monomer, a process which, for the purposes of this sub-paragraph, comprises all operations up to and including the drying of the slurry produced by the polymerisation and the packaging of the dried product; or
- (b) work in a building or structure in which any part of the process referred to in the foregoing sub-paragraph takes place.

34 Peripheral neuropathy.

- Activity: Work involving the use of handling of or exposure to the fumes of or vapour containing n-hexane or methyl n-butyl ketone.

35 Chrome ulceration of:

- (a) the nose or throat; or
- (b) the skin of the hands or forearm.

- Activity: Work involving exposure to chromic acid or to any other chromium compound.

36 Folliculitis.

- Activity: Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.

37 Acne.

- Activity: Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.

38 Skin cancer.

- Activity: Work involving exposure to mineral oil, tar, pitch or arsenic.

39 Pneumoconiosis (excluding asbestosis).

- Activity: I (a) The mining, quarrying or working of silica rock or the working of dried quartzose sand, any dry deposit or residue of silica or any dry admixture containing such materials (including any activity in which any of the aforesaid operations

are carried out incidentally to the mining or quarrying of other minerals or to the manufacture of articles containing crushed or ground silica rock); or

- (b) the handling of any of the materials specified in the foregoing sub-paragraph in or incidentally to any of the operations mentioned therein or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such operations.

- Activity: 2 The breaking, crushing or grinding of flint, the working or handling of broken, crushed or ground flint or materials containing such flint or substantial exposure to the dust arising from any of such operations.
- Activity: 3 Sand blasting by means of compressed air with the use of quartzose sand or crushed silica rock or flint or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such sand blasting.
- Activity: 4 Work in a foundry or the performance of, or substantial exposure to the dust arising from, any of the following operations:
- (a) the freeing of steel castings from adherent siliceous substance or;
  - (b) the freeing of metal castings from adherent siliceous substance:
    - (i) by blasting with an abrasive propelled by compressed air, steam or a wheel, or
    - (ii) by the use of power-driven tools.
- Activity: 5 The manufacture of china or earthenware (including sanitary earthenware, electrical earthenware and earthenware tiles) and any activity involving substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.
- Activity: 6 The grinding of mineral graphite or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such grinding.
- Activity: 7 The dressing of granite or any igneous rock by masons, the crushing of such materials or substantial exposure to the dust arising from such operations.
- Activity: 8 The use or preparation for use of an abrasive wheel or substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.

- Activity: 9(a) Work underground in any mine in which one of the objects of the mining operations is the getting of any material;
- (b) the working or handling above ground at any coal or tin mine of any materials extracted therefrom or any operation incidental thereto;
- (c) the trimming of coal in any ship, barge, lighter, dock or harbour or at any wharf or quay; or
- (d) the sawing, splitting or dressing of slate or any operation incidental thereto.
- Activity: 10 The manufacture of work incidental to the manufacture of carbon electrodes by an industrial undertaking for use in the electrolytic extraction of aluminium from aluminium oxide and any activity involving substantial exposure to the dust therefrom.
- Activity: 11 Boiler scaling or substantial exposure to the dust arising therefrom.

40 Byssinosis.

- Activity: The spinning or manipulation of raw or waste cotton or flax or the weaving of cotton or flax, carried out in each case in a room in a factory, together with any other work carried out in such a room.

41 Mesothelioma.

42 Lung cancer.

43 Asbestosis.

- Activity: (a) the working or handling of asbestos or any admixture of asbestos;
- (b) the manufacture or repair of asbestos textiles or other articles containing or composed of asbestos;
- (c) the cleaning of any machinery or plant used in any of the foregoing operations and of any chambers, fixtures and appliances for the collection of asbestos dust; or
- (d) substantial exposure to the dust arising from any of the foregoing operations.

44 Cancer of the nasal cavity or associated air sinuses.

- Activity: 1 (a) Work in or about a building where wooden furniture is manufactured;
- (b) work in a building used for the manufacture of footwear or components of footwear made wholly or partly of leather or fibre board; or
- (c) work at a place used wholly or mainly for the repair of footwear made wholly or partly of leather or fibre board.
- Activity: 2 Work in or about a factory building where nickel is produced by decomposition of a gaseous nickel compound or in any process which is ancillary or incidental thereto.

45 Occupational dermatitis.

- Activity: Work involving exposure to any of the following agents:
- (a) epoxy resin systems;
- (b) formaldehyde and its resins;
- (c) metalworking fluids;
- (d) chromate (hexavalent and derived from trivalent chromium);
- (e) cement, plaster or concrete;
- (f) acrylates and methacrylates;
- (g) colophony (rosin) and its modified products;
- (h) glutaraldehyde;
- (i) mercaptobenzothiazole, thiurams, substituted paraphenylenediamines and related rubber processing chemicals;
- (j) biocides, anti-bacterials, preservatives or disinfectants;
- (k) organic solvents;
- (l) antibiotics and other pharmaceuticals and therapeutic agents;
- (m) strong acids, strong alkalis, strong solutions (eg brine) and oxidising agents including domestic bleach or reducing agents;
- (n) hairdressing products including in particular dyes, shampoos, bleaches and permanent waving solutions;

- (o) soaps and detergents;
- (p) plants and plant-derived material including in particular the daffodil, tulip and chrysanthemum families, the parsley family (carrots, parsnips, parsley and celery), garlic and onion, hardwoods and the pine family;
- (q) fish, shell-fish or meat;
- (r) sugar or flour; or
- (s) any other known irritant or sensitising agent including in particular any chemical bearing the warning 'may cause sensitisation by skin contact' or 'irritating to the skin'.

46 Extrinsic alveolitis (including farmer's lung).

Activity: Exposure to moulds, fungal spores or heterologous proteins during work in:

- (a) agriculture, horticulture, forestry, cultivation of edible fungi or malt-working;
- (b) loading, unloading or handling mouldy vegetable matter or edible fungi whilst same is being stored;
- (c) caring for or handling birds; or
- (d) handling bagasse.

47 Occupational asthma.

Activity: Work involving exposure to any of the following agents:

- (a) isocyanates;
- (b) platinum salts;
- (c) fumes or dust arising from the manufacture, transport or use of hardening agents (including epoxy resin curing agents) based on phthalic anhydride, tetrachlorophthalic anhydride, trimellitic anhydride or triethylene-tetramine;
- (d) fumes arising from the use of rosin as a soldering flux;
- (e) proteolytic enzymes;
- (f) animals including insects and other arthropods used for the purposes of research or education or in laboratories;

- (g) dusts arising from the sowing, cultivation, harvesting, drying, handling, milling, transport or storage of barley, oats, rye, wheat or maize or the handling, milling, transport or storage of meal or flour made therefrom;
- (h) antibiotics;
- (i) cimetidine;
- (j) wood dust;
- (k) ispaghula;
- (l) castor bean dust;
- (m) ipecacuanha;
- (n) azodicarbonamide;
- (o) animals including insects and other arthropods (whether in their larval forms or not) used for the purposes of pest control or fruit cultivation or the larval forms of animals used for the purposes of research or education or in laboratories;
- (p) glutaraldehyde;
- (q) persulphate salts or henna;
- (r) crustaceans or fish or products arising from these in the food processing industry;
- (s) reactive dyes;
- (t) soya bean;
- (u) tea dust;
- (v) green coffee bean dust;
- (w) fumes from stainless steel welding;
- (x) any other sensitising agent, including in particular any chemical bearing the warning 'may cause sensitisation by inhalation'.

## **HSE offices (Open 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday)**

### **Contact addresses and phone numbers**

Inter City House, Mitchell Lane, Victoria Street, BRISTOL BS1 6AN  
Tel: 0117 988 6000 (Fax: 0117 926 2998)

Priestley House, Priestley Road, BASINGSTOKE RG24 9NW  
Tel: 01256 404000 (Fax: 01256 404100)

3 East Grinstead House, London Road, EAST GRINSTEAD RH19 1RR  
Tel: 01342 334 200 (Fax: 01342 334 222)

Maritime House, 1 Linton Road, BARKING IG11 8HF  
Tel: 0181 235 8000 (Fax: 0181 235 8001)

1 Long Lane, LONDON SE1 4PG  
Tel: 0171 556 2100 (Fax: 0171 556 2200)

39 Baddow Road, CHELMSFORD CM2 0HL  
Tel: 01245 706 200 (Fax: 01245 706 222)

14 Cardiff Road, LUTON LU1 1PP  
Tel: 01582 444200 (Fax: 01582 444320)

Belgrave House, 1 Greyfriars, NORTHAMPTON NN1 2BS  
Tel: 01604 738300 (Fax: 01604 738333)

McLaren Building, 35 Dale End, BIRMINGHAM B4 7NP  
Tel: 0121 607 6260 (Fax: 0121 607 6349)

Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road, CARDIFF CF2 1SH  
Tel: 01222 263 000 (Fax: 01222 263 120)

The Marches House, Midway, NEWCASTLE UNDER LYME ST5 1DT  
Tel: 01782 602 300 (Fax: 01782 602 400 )

The Pearson Building 55 Upper Parliament Street NOTTINGHAM NG1 6AU  
Tel: 0115 971 2800 (Fax: 0115 971 2802)

Sovereign House, 110 Queen Street, SHEFFIELD S1 2ES  
Tel: 0114 273 2300 (Fax: 0114 291 2379)

8 St Paul's Street, LEEDS LS1 2LE  
Tel: 0113 283 4200 (Fax: 0113 283 4296)

Quay House, Quay Street, MANCHESTER M3 3JB  
Tel: 0161 952 8200 (Fax: 0161 952 8222)

The Triad, Stanley Road, BOOTLE, Merseyside L20 3PG  
Tel: 0151 479 2200 (Fax: 0151 479 2201)

Victoria House, Ormskirk Road, PRESTON PR1 1HH  
Tel: 01772 836 200 (Fax: 01772 836 222)

Arden House, Regent Centre, Regent Farm Road, Gosforth, NEWCASTLE  
UPON TYNE NE3 3JN  
Tel: 0191 202 6200 (Fax: 0191 202 6300)

Belford House, 59 Belford Road, EDINBURGH EH4 3UE  
Tel: 0131 247 2000 (Fax: 0131 247 2121)

375 West George Street, GLASGOW G2 4LW  
Tel: 0141 275 3000 (Fax: 0141 275 3100)

## **Suggested reading**

*A Guide to the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995* 1996 HSE Books ISBN 0 7176 1012 8 (a copy of this guide is available with electronic copies of the report forms ISBN 0 7176 1080 2)

*Everyone's guide to RIDDOR '95* HSE 31 1996 HSE Books (single copies available free from HSE Books, also available in priced packs of 10 ISBN 0 7176 1077 2)

*Guidance for railways, tramways, trolley vehicle systems and other guided transport systems on the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995* 1996 HSE Books ISBN 0 7176 1022 5

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