

Alliance between Oregon OSHA
and the
Oregon Coalition for Healthcare Ergonomics (OCHE)

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Healthy Administration (Oregon OSHA) and the Oregon Coalition for Healthcare Ergonomics (OCHE) acknowledge the merits of establishing a cooperative relationship. Oregon OSHA and OCHE hereby continue the Alliance that was started in 2011 to jointly share ergonomics best practices and injury prevention strategies throughout the Oregon healthcare community. Best practices will be shared through the dissemination of information regarding the benefits of safe patient and resident handling (SPH/SRH) protocols and potential use of state-funded support as a means to expedite the dissemination of SPH/SRH techniques. Using these methods, the Alliance aims to increase the use of evidence based best practices in SPH/SRH including patient or resident lift equipment and ultimately, reduce the incidence rate of musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) associated with manual patient and resident handling throughout the healthcare industry.

Focus Areas:

Oregon OSHA and OCHE will work together to achieve the following training and education goals:

- Provide expertise and up to date information to healthcare facilities in Oregon on the safety and financial benefits of implementing SPH/SRH programs.
- Develop curriculum to retrain employers and employees in the healthcare industry in SPH/SRH techniques and in the use of SPH/SRH equipment

Oregon OSHA and OCHE will work together to achieve the following goals related to promoting statewide dialogue on workplace health and safety:

- Raise awareness of demonstrated commitment to SPH procedures to improve the health and safety of the workplace when Oregon OSHA and OCHE leaders address healthcare groups.
- Convene or participate in forums, round tables discussions, or stakeholder meetings on health and safety issues, including MSD research and data, SPH equipment advances and workplace design to help develop innovate solutions in the workplace and to provide input on health and safety.

The Alliance will continue to disseminate the activities and products described above via the OCHE website www.hcergo.org and organization of 5th Health Care Ergonomics conference in September 2014.

Oregon OSHA and OCHE agree to meet quarterly to share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the Alliance.

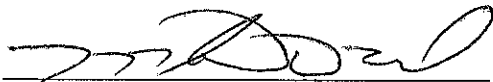
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Oregon OSHA's Alliances provide parties an opportunity to participate in a voluntary cooperative relationship with Oregon OSHA for purposes such as outreach and communication and promoting dialogue on workplace safety and health. These Alliances have proved to be valuable tools for both Oregon OSHA and its Alliance participants. By entering into an Alliance with a party, Oregon OSHA is not endorsing any of that party's products or services; nor does the Agency enter into an Alliance with the purpose of promoting a particular party's products or services.

This agreement will remain in effect until either party terminates it, provided that party gives 30 days notice in writing. Either party may terminate this agreement at any time, for any reason, subject to the foregoing notice provision. This agreement may be modified at any time, so long as both parties concur in writing.



Michael Wood
Administrator, Oregon OSHA
Department of Consumer and Business Services

8/13/13

Date



Lynda Enos
RN, MS, COHN-S, CPE
Co-Chair OCHE

8/13/13

Date