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MEDIA CENTER**OSHA Wants You to Know Your Illness and Injury Rates are Too High**

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Health Care

OSHA has put together a 2000+ list of nursing home, CCRC, home health agency and other senior services providers across the country that will be receiving a letter notifying them that their illness and injury statistics for 2008 were well above the national average. Any one of these provider/employers that had a Days Away from Work, Restricted, or Transferred (DART) rate above 4.5 should expect to receive the OSHA letter.

OSHA's letter encourages the targeted employers to do more to reduce occupational hazards in the workplace and consider hiring outside consultants, talking to their state workers compensation agency or their workers compensation insurance carrier to get advice on how to reduce their DART issues. OSHA also recommends that employers with 250 or fewer employees ask for help from OSHA's on-site consultation program.

The OSHA letter does not initiate an inspection or suggest that the employer will be subject to an inspection. This is also not the first time OSHA has sent out these advisory letters encouraging employers to do more. However, employers that receive the letter have an increased risk of inspection, particularly those with a DART rate significantly above the threshold for receiving the letter. Additionally, employers that have received a letter in previous years may be at even higher risk for an OSHA inspection.

Additional Information

For more information on OSHA's "High Rate Workplace" letters, to find out whether you might be receiving one, or if you need help determining what you can do to comply with OSHA standards, please contact a member of Benesch's Health Care Department:

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