



Workplace Safety: Reducing Workers' Risk of Exposure

The Coronavirus poses new challenges for those responsible for workplace safety. In times such as these, it is vital to have the best information to guide your employees and leadership with regards to prevention measures.

Employers of workers with potential occupational exposures to coronavirus should follow these practices:

- Assess the hazards to which workers may be exposed.
- Evaluate the risk of exposure.
- Select, implement, and ensure workers use controls to prevent exposure, including physical barriers to control the spread of the virus; social distancing; and appropriate personal protective equipment, hygiene, and cleaning supplies.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration has recently published a <u>guidance document</u> on preparing workplaces for COVID-19.

PAGES 4-6 – These pages explain what COVID-19 is and how an outbreak can affect the workplace in regards to absenteeism, commerce, and business interruption.

PAGES 7-17 – OSHA lists steps that employers can take to reduce workers risk of exposure.

PAGES 18-25 – OSHA supplied an occupational risk pyramid for COVID-19 that ranges from lower risk (caution) to very high exposure risk that classifies workers' exposure. For each of those exposure categories, the document lists specific details for the hierarchy of controls (Engineering Controls - Administrative Controls - Personal Protective Equipment) for workers' protection.

Note: The guidance document does not change OSHA laws, it is strictly guidance and advisory in nature.

While this is a rapidly changing event, it is critical to review the most current information available from the <u>Center for Disease</u> Control (CDC).

Questions?

Please contact Conner Strong & Buckelew's Risk Control Department at 856-552-4738.

OCCUPATIONAL RISK PYRAMID FOR COVID-19 VERY HIGH HIGH MEDIUM LOWER RISK (CAUTION) OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND

HEALTH ADMINISTRATION