

Healthcare Employee Safety

Safety of caregivers and those that they care for is top priority within the healthcare industry. Healthcare providers must comply with state and federal legislation regarding safety. Since healthcare is provided in a variety of settings, safety rules should serve as guidelines for daily operations.

Safety Rules

- Employees must wear their seat belts when driving or riding in vehicles on company business.
- Report to work free from the aftereffects of drugs or alcohol.
- Report maintenance needs or hazards before the end of your work shift.
- Report incidents or injuries in writing immediately.
- Wear protective gloves during patient contact.
- Wash hands before and after patient contact.
- Wear protective gloves and use a germicidal cleaner when cleaning up body fluids.
- Wear eye protection when exposed to flying body fluids.
- Wear a HEPA face mask when exposed to body fluid mists or potential tuberculosis exposure.
- Replace sharps containers when they're 2/3 full.
- Keep fire exits clear, unblocked and unlocked.
- Report issues with emergency lighting and exits.
- Wear slip-resistant footwear.
- Know severe weather shelter locations.
- Get help to team lift heavy objects like office furniture, boxes of records or other supplies.
- Keep personal protective equipment stocked.
- Report shortages of protective equipment that limits exposure to infectious body fluids.
- Do not block circuit breaker panels, fire alarm pull stations, fire or emergency exit lighting or fire extinguishers with decorations or fixtures.
- Do not use undersized two-wire extension cords.
- Never piggyback surge protectors or extension cords and do not use if damaged or unsafe.
- Keep the area around surge protectors clean and clear to allow for cooling airflow.
- Do not cover extension cords with rugs or in an area that creates a trip hazard.
- When doing extensive computer work take little breaks, stretch and report issues early.
- Report security concerns immediately.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.