



CARING FOR THOSE WHO CARE

Guide for the development and implementation of occupational health and safety programmes for health workers







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CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	iv
Abbreviations.	v
Glossary of key terms and definitions	vi
Executive summary	viii
Introduction	1
Part 1. Programmes for occupational health and safety of health workers	9
Chapter 1. National programmes	11
1.1. Governance and stewardship.	12
1.2. Financing	23
1.3. Human and physical resources.	25
1.4. Service delivery	28
Chapter 2. Subnational or district programmes	33
Chapter 3. Health facility programmes	37
3.1. Facility policy on occupational health and safety.	38
3.2. Facility focal point for occupational health and safety.	40
3.3. Health and safety committee	43
3.4. Training, safety briefings and risk communication.	45
3.5. Assessment and mitigation of occupational hazards	47
3.6. Immunization of health workers	49
3.7. Recording, investigation and notification of incidents	51
3.8. Early detection, diagnosis, treatment, care, notification and support for occupational diseases and injuries	53
3.9. Information system and monitoring	55
3.10. Environmental hygiene, sustainability and resilience	57
Part 2. Programme development and implementation	61
Chapter 4. Programme development	63
Chapter 5. Programme implementation	75
References	89
Annex 1. Outline of the report on the current situation of occupational health and safety in the health sector	05
Annex 2. Model for a national policy for occupational health	99
and safety for health workers	99

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ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
COVID-19 novel coronavirus infectious disease

IEC information, education and communication

HIV human immunodeficiency virusILO International Labour OrganizationIPC infection prevention and control

NHS National Health Service

OHS occupational health and safety
OSH occupational safety and health
PPE personal protective equipment
SDG Sustainable Development Goal

TB tuberculosis
UN United Nations

WASH water, sanitation and hygieneWHO World Health Organization

GLOSSARY OF KEY TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Accreditation: A formal process by which a recognized body, usually a nongovernmental organization, assesses and recognizes that a health care organization meets applicable predetermined and published standards. Accreditation standards are usually regarded as optimal and achievable, and are designed to encourage continuous improvement efforts within accredited organizations. An accreditation decision about a specific health care organization is made following a periodic on-site evaluation by a team of peer reviewers, which is typically conducted every two to three years. Accreditation is often a voluntary process in which organizations choose to participate, rather than one required by law and regulation (1).

Employer: Any physical or legal person that employs one or more workers (2).

Hazard: The inherent potential to cause injury or damage people's health (2).

Health facility: A place where health services (i.e. not limited to medical or clinical services) are provided with the aim of contributing to improved health or to the diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of sick people (3).

Health system: All organizations, institutions and resources that produce actions whose primary purpose is to improve health (4).

Health workers: All people engaged in work actions whose primary intent is to improve health. This includes health service providers, such as doctors, nurses, midwives, public health professionals, laboratory technicians, health technicians, medical and non-medical technicians, personal care workers, community health workers, healers and practitioners of traditional medicine. The term also includes health management and support workers such as cleaners, drivers, hospital administrators, district health managers and social workers, and other occupational groups in health-related

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