



# Newsletter

May, 2005

## What incidents are recordable on the OSHA log?

According to the OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1904, A work related injury or illness must be recorded if it results in one or more of the following:

- \* Death
- \* Days away from Work
- \* Restricted work or transfer to another job.
- \* Medical treatment beyond first aid.
- \* Loss of consciousness
- \* A significant injury or illness diagnosed by a physician or other licensed health care professional.

***A typical question from employers relates to what treatment is considered "first aid". In an attempt to clarify this issue we have listed below the definition of "first aid" for the purposes of determination of recordability of an incident on the OSHA log.***

This is a complete list of all treatments considered first aid for Part 1904 purposes.

- Using a non-prescription medication at nonprescription strength (for medications available in both prescription and non-prescription form, a recommendation by a physician or other licensed health care professional to use a non-prescription medication at prescription strength is considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- Administering tetanus immunizations (other immunizations, such as Hepatitis B vaccine or rabies vaccine, are considered medical treatment);
- Cleaning, flushing or soaking wounds on the surface of the skin;
- Using wound coverings such as bandages, Band-Aids™, gauze pads, etc.; or using butterfly bandages or Steri-Strips™ (other wound closing devices such as sutures, staples, etc., are considered medical treatment);
- Using hot or cold therapy;
- Using any non-rigid means of support, such as elastic bandages, wraps, non-rigid back belts, etc. (devices with rigid stays or other systems designed to immobilize parts of the body are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes);
- Using temporary immobilization devices while transporting an accident victim (*e.g.*, splints, slings, neck collars, back boards, etc.);
- Drilling of a fingernail or toenail to relieve pressure, or draining fluid from a blister;
- Using eye patches;
- Removing foreign bodies from the eye using only irrigation or a cotton swab;
- Removing splinters or foreign material from areas other than the eye by irrigation, tweezers, cotton swabs or other simple means;
- Using finger guards;
- Using massages (physical therapy or chiropractic treatment are considered medical treatment for recordkeeping purposes); or
- Drinking fluids for relief of heat stress.