

Additional Recommended Areas of Focus

In addition to the core duty of Safety administration, the BEC is recommending that employers also use the opportunity provided by the existence of a consultation mechanism to address some of the significant health issues facing the working population of the nation. These areas include:

1. HIV/AIDS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE WORKPLACE

The committee should take this issue on board to ensure that persons are aware of the facts concerning the disease and are properly equipped to interact with persons living with HIV/AIDS in a respectful, non-discriminatory manner appropriate for the workplace.

Training and activities focused on this epidemic should be provided to members of the workforce at least once per year to ensure that the appropriate information is provided and persons are equipped to adequately respond to life situations where a person or persons with HIV/AIDS may be involved.

2. NON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In addition to training and activities designed to increase awareness of these lifestyle diseases such as hypertension/pressure, diabetes/sugar, cardiac disease/bad heart, there should also be annual health promotion activities designed to promote an active lifestyle, and these could extend to include workers and their families, customers and the general public.

3. PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

The BEC is recommending that JHSCs investigate and share information related to specific occupational diseases which are relevant to the working conditions, processes and or activities which are found in the workplace. In addition if there is a particular risk which can be monitored, the committee should recommend health monitoring to ensure early detection and prevention of any relevant occupational diseases.