EU guidance on COVID-19 – BACK TO THE WORKPLACE

Webinar: Return to Work - Global Workplace Strategies & Guidance

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#EUhealthyworkplaces
#StopthePandemic
European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)

- Established in 1994 in Bilbao, Spain

- To help improve **working conditions** in the European Union by providing **technical, scientific and economic information** to people involved in **safety and health at work**.

- **Tripartite Board** bringing together:
  - governments, employers’ and workers’ organisations
  - the European Commission
EU-OSHA key activity areas

- Facts and figures
- Cooperation & Networking
- Raising awareness
- Anticipating change
- Tools for OSH management

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http://osha.europa.eu
COVID-19: Resources for the workplace

EU guidance

What can workplaces do in practice to help tackle this pandemic and protect employees? Knowledge and awareness are key — everyone must be well informed about how the virus spreads, the symptoms of infection and how to minimise exposure. Our guidance helps organisations to provide workers with the information they need and put measures in place to prevent infection.

COVID-19: Back to the workplace - Adapting workplaces and protecting workers

COVID-19: guidance for the workplace

Awareness-raising video Napo in... stop the pandemic

Telework

In the current context of confinement due to the COVID-19 pandemic, millions of European workers are forced to work from home full-time to cut down the risk of contracting the virus. A new reality that can take its toll on our physical and mental health. This guidance shows how people can effectively protect themselves during home-based telework.

Practical tips to make home-based telework as healthy, safe and effective as possible

MSQ database of practical tools and guidance: telework

Awareness-raising video Napo is... teleworking to stop the pandemic

Resources from EU and international organisations

European Commission: webpage on Covid-19

http://osha.europa.eu
EU guidance for a safe return to the workplace
Minimising exposure to COVID-19 at work

Put in place control measures. Here are some examples:

- Carry out only essential work for the time being
- Reduce as far as possible physical contact between workers
- Provide all necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Supply soap and water or appropriate hand sanitiser
- Put in place policies on flexible leave and remote working

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Managing workers working from home

How to minimise the risks for teleworkers:

- Carry out a risk assessment
- Allow workers to take home equipment they use at work
- Provide guidance on setting up a workstation at home
- Give support on IT equipment and software
- Ensure good communication at all levels

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Resuming work after a period of closure

If your workplace has been closed for reasons related to COVID-19, make a plan for when work resumes that takes account of health and safety. Consider the following:

- Update your risk assessment
- Support workers who may be suffering from anxiety or stress
- Pay special attention to workers at high risk (i.e. older workers, workers with chronic conditions)
- Adapt workplaces and work procedures

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Last but not least...

The guidance document also provides information on how to:

- Consult and inform your workers
- Take care of workers who have been ill
- Plan and learn for the future
- Stay well informed

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Healthy Workplaces Campaign 2020-22
LIGHTEN THE LOAD
Good Practice Exchange on musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
Good practice exchange initiative

- Initiative from Campaign Partners
- Added value for campaign partners
  - Exchange of good practices
  - Better OSH management
- Added value for EU-OSHA
  - Strong link to campaign & reinforcing its messages
  - Improvement of OSH at workplace level
  - Structure for collaboration with different stakeholders
- On-site workshops
Thank you…

Any questions?