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ABSTRACT



9365: Employer Compliance with OSHA's New Rule on Reporting Work-Related Hospitalizations, Amputations and Loss of an Eye in Michigan: 2016

Wednesday, June 13, 2018

10:52 AM - 11:14 AM

📍 Palm Beach County Convention Center - 2A

BACKGROUND:

On September 1, 2015, the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA), to comply with new federal OSHA regulations, implemented a new requirement that employers report all work-related hospitalizations, amputations or losses of an eye that occurred within 24 hours of the incident. Work-related motor vehicle collisions (MVCs) on public roadways are excluded.

METHODS:

Since January 1, 2006, all 134 of Michigan's hospitals were required to report all work-related amputations irrespective of the payer type and since January 1, 2014 were required to report all hospitalized work-related injuries of selected acute traumatic injuries where workers' compensation was the expected payer. Reports received included personal identifiers of the patient and the company where the injury occurred. Injuries were reviewed for potential MIOSHA enforcement inspections to correct the hazard causing the injury and further consideration was given whether companies should be inspected to potentially cite the employer for not reporting the injury. Since this latter type of inspection would require sharing the individual's name with the company, the latter inspections were not initiated unless the injured individual gave permission to reveal their name to their employer.

RESULTS:

In 2016, employers reported 607 hospitalizations or amputations to MIOSHA, while hospitals reported 684 work-related hospitalizations and 389 amputations. Twenty-eight percent of the hospitalizations and 18% of the amputations were reported by employers to MIOSHA. Reporting of hospitalizations increased in the second half of 2016 (19% to 30%) but slightly decreased for amputations (30% vs 26%). Manufacturing employers had the highest reporting of hospitalizations, 36% and 72% of amputations. Results by all industry sectors will be presented. Results of MIOSHA inspections will be presented for employers not reporting a hospitalization or amputation injury, including citations and penalties.

CONCLUSIONS:

Employer compliance with the new reporting requirement was poor, 28% of hospitalized and 18% of amputations, although there was some improvement in the reporting in the second half of the year. Michigan' hospital based reporting allowed evaluation of employer compliance with the new reporting rule and for MIOSHA to both target individual enforcement inspections in specific companies and industry wide educational efforts to improve compliance.

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