How to find us

We are based at Rikenel, Montpellier, Gloucester, GL1 1LY.

Opening hours

8.30am - 4.30pm
Monday to Friday

To ensure you get through to one of our practitioners please try to avoid our peak times and call us between 10:00am and 4:00pm. Outside of our opening hours we provide an automated information service.

Contact Details

(t) 0300 421 4455
(e) ghc.workingwell@nhs.net
(w) www.workingwellglos.nhs.uk

SEQOHS

WWforImms_007
Jan 2020

Staff health and wellbeing

WorkingWell

for Health Surveillance

NHS
Gloucestershire Health and Care
NHS Foundation Trust
Working Well
Your Occupational Health Service

WorkingWell
to help protect your health in the workplace

What is health surveillance?

Health Surveillance is the intermittent monitoring of employees exposed to a particular hazard at work in order to protect their health by detecting any work-related health issues early and allowing appropriate action to be taken.

When is health surveillance necessary?

Where your work exposes you to hazards that could affect your health, your employer is required to make an assessment of the potential risks and to reduce those risks as far as possible. In some circumstances some risk will remain despite efforts to reduce. Where possible the adverse health effects caused by exposure at work are monitored to ensure that any signs that your health is being affected can be acted upon promptly in order to protect your health. This may involve changing the way you do things or at times, removing you from the particular workplace or area where the exposure occurred.

Health Surveillance is also a legal requirement as given in the COSHH regulations and the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations. For further information see the HSE website.

Your Personal Information.

If you are part of a programme of health surveillance, Working Well will keep a health surveillance medical record in your confidential occupational health file required to keep health records for you and this record must be kept for 40 years from the date of last entry. The information that is held by your employer will include the fact that some form of health monitoring has taken place, and the outcome of that monitoring in terms of your fitness to continue in that role and any adjustments that may be necessary. It will not include confidential medical information or results without your consent. When you take part in the health surveillance programme the practitioner will explain the process and seek your consent to pass on appropriate information to your employer.

What types of health surveillance are there?

Skin (Dermatological) Assessments

Hazard: e.g. *Skin sensitisers and irritants*
Health Surveillance: *Questionnaire and Periodic Review*

Audiometry (Hearing) Assessments

Hazard: *Exposure to noise above the action level*
Health Surveillance: *Questionnaire & audiometry (hearing test)*

Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome HAVS (White Finger)

Hazard: *Hand held vibrating tools*
Health Surveillance: *Questionnaire +/- clinical assessment*

Spirometry (Lung Function) Assessments

Hazard: e.g. *Respiratory sensitisers such as dusts/ fumes*
Health Surveillance: *Questionnaire & spirometry (lung function test)*

Biological Monitoring

Hazard: *Chemical exposure such as isocyanates, metals or solvents where biological monitoring possible*
Health Surveillance: *Urine or blood tests*

Specific Types with own Legislation

Hazard: *May include lead, asbestos, radiation*
Health Surveillance: *Statutory medical assessment by HSE approved doctor*