

## Construction Safety Newsletter

### STOP MEDICATING OUR WORKERS ON JOBSITES!

By Heidi Brookes P.GSC CSC, NCSO

Is your first aid kit restocking company putting your company in breach of the first aid regulations?

Have you opened the workplace first aid kit of late to check for expired lotions, liquids and medications? Well you damn well should! I have been auditing all over the province of Ontario, and repeatedly have opened workplace kits that are bursting with items that are “out of the realms of first aid.” I have taken, at times, up to 6 types of medication out of kits and reported to constructors and companies that this is not only in breach of the WSIB First Aid Regulations, it is dangerous and very costly!

I see invoices for \$200-\$400 monthly for re-stocking just 1 first aid kit. A brand new kit is \$150-\$200 for the general jobsite. \$400 could buy 3 basic harnesses, a dozen hard hats, gloves, eye protection, etc. We may not need first aid if we protect and prevent workers from being injured, therefore we will not need first aid supplies!

First aid does not allow us to prescribe pain killers so why are we allowing companies to slip in and stock us full of things we simple don't need and should not have in our workplace first aid kits.

Please assign someone who is qualified to oversee the first aid kit in your workplace. Check the invoices your paying (no first aid reports = no need for top ups). I am all for freedom of sales but please be sure that someone else's business is not putting your own at risk.

### SUBTRADE MONITORING

By Andrea Barnes CHRL, NCSO

It is important that a Company monitors their subtrades not only for quality and completion but for safety and performance. As a constructor or employer, a Company is responsible for all contracted workers on site and ensuring everything reasonable has been done to prevent an incident. Monitoring subtrades is a shared effort by Project Management and Site Management. Some ways to monitor subtrades include:

1. Pre-qualification or subtrade package: This phase begins at the office level with a subtrade package to ensure the subtrade is aware of what your Company safety rules and expectation are on site. Gathering WSIB, Insurance and training cards is also done at this point. All of this information and confirmations are sent back to the office prior to the subtrade mobilizing to site.
  2. Site Orientation: Site specific safety rules and hazards are explained with training cards confirmed and recorded. All parties participate and sign off. This is the first opportunity for workers to ask questions.
  3. Daily JHA/PSA completeness and review: JHA's are the responsibility of the Company performing the work. If a subtrade does not have their own form, share yours. Safety is not proprietary! The forms are reviewed to ensure appropriate hazards are identified and adequate controls are implemented. The JHA is to be signed by all those performing that scope of work.
  4. Post job review: Both Project Management and Site Management should have input once a subtrade has completed their scope of work. A questionnaire or assessment can be performed and should include rating the quality of work, schedule and safety performance in order to ascertain if you would use this subtrade in the future. This is a useful tool for the estimating department for future work.
- We can provide your Company with all these tools.

### ICI PRESENCE

ICI continues to be an on site presence for our clients and their subtrades. Some of the consistent hazards on most job sites include moving equipment, silica exposure, heights, fuel storage, new and young workers and jobsite security. Hazard control is not carbon copy. Site specific and daily specific conditions must be assessed to help in the control of identified hazards. Contact us to find our how we can help.



### LATEST NEWS

Regulations are constantly evolving and changing. Many have been revised for July 1, 2019. Stay up to date by reviewing the Ministry Notices page. Some changes include respiratory protection, NOP requirements and CVOR updates. You can find the updates here: [www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/resources/notices.php](http://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/resources/notices.php)

### REFERRALS

The majority of our current Client base was referred to us by their colleagues, general contractors, subtrades, other safety professionals and auditors. We pride ourselves on providing professional sound knowledge and experience to our clients. We appreciate all referrals and publicly thank those that provide them and also provide a discounted rate to those Companies that are referred to us. Contact us to find more and review many of our references on our website [www.icihealthandsafety.com](http://www.icihealthandsafety.com)

### WHERE CAN YOU FIND US?

ICI is on jobsites, offices, yards and shops.  
We come to you, our Clients.  
Website [www.icihealthandsafety.com](http://www.icihealthandsafety.com)  
LinkedIn: Heidi Brookes, Andrea Barnes  
Twitter: @icihealthsafety

CLICK HERE TO  
UNSUBSCRIBE