

**Risk management tips brought to you by:
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DID YOU KNOW?

OSHA recently announced that it will partner with Health Canada to create universal regulatory approaches to labeling and classification requirements for workplace chemicals through the Regulatory Cooperation Council.

By using one standard label and safety data sheet (SDS) format between the United States and Canada, OSHA and Health Canada aim to create an easily understandable way of classifying chemicals and promote safety in the workplace.

OSHA Changes Policy on Concentration of Chemicals

OSHA has revised the enforcement policy on the concentration of a chemical that must be present in a process for the purpose of determining whether the chemical is at or above the threshold quantity listed in Appendix A of the Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals (PSM). OSHA's previous policy was found to be potentially unsafe for use around hazardous chemicals.

Under OSHA's revised policy, an employer is required to use a new process to calculate the following:

- The total weight of any chemical in the process at a concentration that is at or above the concentration listed for that chemical in Appendix A

- With respect to chemicals for which no concentration is specified in Appendix A, the total weight of the chemical in the process at a concentration of 1 percent or greater.

The employer need not include the weight of such chemicals in any portion of the process in which the partial pressure of the chemical in the vapor space under handling or storage conditions is less than 10 millimeters of mercury. The employer must document this partial pressure determination.

For more detailed information, refer to the full policy changes at www.osha.gov.



Overuse of Physical Therapy

Although physical therapy can often help an injured employee return to work quicker, the overuse of physical therapy by injured workers may add to their time off and lead to increased medical costs.

There are a variety of reasons an employee can overuse physical therapy. For example, it can be difficult for workers to distinguish between rehabilitative discomfort and physical pain. Also, workers that reach maximum medical improvement may have additional, unnecessary sessions scheduled.

It is vital to have a system of communication in place between a physician and a physical therapist in order to maximize recovery for workers and to get them back to work quickly and safely.