

THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT. *Act 85 of 1993*

To assist you, Proto Aid Consultants and Training, has extracted some sections of the act

THIS APPLIES TO ALL PREMISES WHERE PEOPLE ARE EMPLOYED, FROM FACTORIES TO SHOPS AND OFFICES.

1. GENERAL SAFETY REGULATIONS

3. First aid, emergency equipment and procedures

- (1) An Employer **shall** take all reasonable steps that are necessary under the circumstances, to ensure that persons injured at work receive prompt first aid treatment in the case of injury or emergency.
- (2) Where more than five employees are employed at a workplace, the employer shall provide a first aid box or boxes at or near the workplace which shall be available and accessible for the treatment of injured persons at that workplace:
 - (a) During normal working hours
 - (b) At any one work place or on any one floor of a multi story building
- (3) Taking into account the type of injuries that are likely to occur at a workplace, the nature of the activities performed and the number of employees employed at such workplace, the first aid box should contain suitable first aid equipment which includes at least the equipment listed.
 - (a) Where more than ten employees are employed at a workplace, for every group up to fifty employees or in the case of a shops or offices, for every group of up to one hundred employees. At least one person should be readily available who is suitably qualified and in possession of a valid First Aid Certificate.
- (4) At a workplace where high risk substances, toxic, corrosive or other hazardous substances are used, handled, manufactured or processed, a First Aid worker must be trained in the first aid procedures necessary for such activities.
 - (a) During normal working hours
 - (b) At any one work place or on any one floor of a multi story building

4. Information and Training

- (1) An employer shall, before any employee is exposed or may be exposed to HBA, ensure that the employee is adequately and comprehensively informed and trained, on both practical aspects and theoretical knowledge in regard to:
- (a) The contents and scope of these regulations;
 - (b) The potential risks caused by exposure;
 - (c) The measures taken to protect the employee against any risk if being exposed;
 - (d) The importance of good housekeeping at the workplace and personal hygiene requirements;
 - (e) The precautions to be taken by the employee to protect him or herself against the health risks associated with exposure, including the wearing and use of protective clothing and respiratory protective equipment;
 - (f) The necessity, correct use, maintenance and potential of safety equipment, facilities and engineering control measures provided;
 - (g) The necessity of medical surveillance;
 - (h) The safe working procedures in the event of exposure, spillage, leakage, injury or any similar emergency situation, and decontaminating or disinfecting contaminated areas; and
 - (i) The procedures to be followed in the event of exposure, spillage, leakage, injury or any similar emergency situation, and decontaminating or disinfecting of contaminated areas; and
 - (j) The potential detrimental effect of exposure of the human reproductive process

LIST OF FIRST AID EQUIPMENT TO BE KEPT IN FIRST AID BOXES/POUCHES

1. *Wound cleaner/antiseptic (100 ml)	10. * 4 Roller bandages (100mm x 5m)
2. Swabs for cleaning wounds	11. 1 Roll of elastic adhesive (25mm x 3m)
3. Cotton wool for padding (100g)	12. 1 Non-allergenic adhesive strip (25mm x 3m)
4. Sterile gauze (minimum quantity 10)	13. 1 Pkt adhesive dressing strips (min 10 ass. Sizes)
5. 1 Pair of forceps for splinters	14. * 4 First aid dressings (75mm x 100mm)
6. 1 Pair of scissors (minimum size 100mm)	15. * 4 First aid dressings (150mm x 200mm)
7. 1 set of safety pins	16. 2 Straight splints
8. *4 triangular bandages	17. * 2 Prs large & 2 medium disposable latex gloves
9. * 4 roller bandages (75mm x 5m)	18. * 2 CPR mouth pieces or similar devices

* Amounts may be halved for Office and Shop First Aid kits