

# Health & Safety Bulletin



Issue 7

May 2013

## Face Fit Testing

All staff who, after a risk assessment has been completed, are required to wear a tight fitting face mask, must undertake a facefit test before commencing work under the Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations.



The Health and Safety Department runs the in-house facefit testing programme. Individual tests take approximately 30 minutes including respirator fit training.

The test requires some simple exercises (head movements and talking aloud whilst walking on the spot) to be undertaken whilst wearing the respirator.

Further information is available at:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/ppe/facefit](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/ppe/facefit)

## H&S Law Poster - reminder



The HSE issued the latest revision of the poster on 6th April 2009. There is a five year transitional period for these and any previous versions of the poster must be replaced by the new versions no later than 5 April 2014.

The University is required to display copies of the revised statutory 'Health and Safety Law' poster at prominent locations throughout the University's buildings, or provide employees with a Health and Safety Law leaflet produced by the HSE.

The purchase of a copy of the poster for each and every University building is not a cost-effective approach. However, in order to comply with this legal requirement the Health and Safety Department have purchased a number of posters and these are displayed in suitably prominent locations, which are accessible to University employees.

Please get in touch with the Health and Safety Department if you would like a new poster to replace any old style ones in your buildings/premises.

For more information follow the link below.

[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/workplaces-general/health-and-safety-poster](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/workplaces-general/health-and-safety-poster)

## Statutory Health Surveillance - On-Site Clinics

The Occupational Health Unit (OHU) provides statutorily required Health Surveillance for persons identified through local management risk assessment. Health surveillance does not minimise risk, it checks the effectiveness of safety controls & helps identify failures of the safety control system.

For the convenience of Schools/Departments and individuals, and to assist Schools with high levels of compliance, appointments for respiratory and skin surveillance are provided locally for groups within a School/Department, at sites across the University. The OHU has updated and streamlined its processes for arranging these clinics and this information is being discussed with relevant managers throughout May.

[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/occupational-health/staff/health-surveillance](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/occupational-health/staff/health-surveillance)

## Minibus vision screening test

We have recently reviewed our requirement to have all UoE minibus drivers assessed for vision screening at the Occupational Health Unit.

We have now removed that requirement and are asking that all UoE minibus drivers have an NHS eyesight test at

least once every two years. This prescription certificate should then be given to the local Minibus Driver Assessor as evidence that the driver has the required vision standard for driving.

We have updated our Policy and guidance on the website.



[www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/transport-travel/minibuses-vision-screen](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/guidance/transport-travel/minibuses-vision-screen)

# AURPO Conference 2013

The Association of University Radiation Protection Officers (AURPO) are being hosted by the University of Edinburgh for their 2013 annual conference. The AURPO was founded in 1962 and is the main professional body in the UK for radiation safety officers who work in universities. Radiation Protection professionals will descend on Edinburgh on the 3rd-5th

September for a two-day scientific programme, accompanied by a Scottish themed social night on the 3rd and a more formal conference dinner in the Playfair Library on the 4th. The University Radiation Protection Unit (Colin Farmery & Mark Green), assisted by the H&S admin team, are working hard to deliver a top notch event for all!



## Codes of Practice

The Radiation Protection Unit (RPU) will shortly be issuing two new Codes of Practice: CoP\_015 Classified Radiation Workers and CoP\_016 Research Work Involving Ionising Radiation Sources outside the UK. These will be available on the RPU website in the near future.

The Radiation Protection Unit wish to remind everyone that ANY University employees who work with ionising radiations out with the University's premises, must contact their local/School RPS (unless the RPS is already aware of their work).

ANY University employees working with ionising radiations on premises out with the University must be supplied with a personal whole-body dosimeter for recording their radiation dose (regardless of whether the host premises supply dosimeters). More information can be obtained from the RPU.

[radiation@ed.ac.uk](mailto:radiation@ed.ac.uk)

### Contact Details

Health and Safety Department  
Charles Stewart House  
9-16 Chambers Street  
T: 651 4255  
E: [Health.Safety@ed.ac.uk](mailto:Health.Safety@ed.ac.uk)  
W: [www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety](http://www.ed.ac.uk/health-safety)

## Update on RIDDOR review



The results of the HSE review into the Reporting of Incidents, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations have now been published on the HSE website.

The University contributed to this review along with 450 other respondents. The HSE has sent the following statement to all contributors:

*'Having taken into consideration the responses from the consultation, the HSE Board advised the Minister to accept a modified option. The modified option reinstates the requirement to report injuries to member of the public and the notification of six key industrial diseases which represent over 90% of those that are currently reported, in addition to the requirement to report occupational cancers and diseases attributable to biological agents'.*

HSE remains committed to implementing the change – subject to Parliamentary approval – in October 2013. Further information will be published on the HSE website in due course.

[www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd243-responses.pdf](http://www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd243-responses.pdf)

## H&S online training - new email address

A new email address has been created to receive any queries regarding the Health and Safety Department's online training courses - [safetylearning@ed.ac.uk](mailto:safetylearning@ed.ac.uk)  
Please submit your emails to this address and your query will be acknowledged/responded to as soon as possible.

### Forthcoming Training Courses

- Basic Course in Radiation Protection in Teaching and Research (12th and 19th June 2013)
- Laser Safety Course (21st June 2013) [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/radiation-protection/training/timetable](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/radiation-protection/training/timetable)
- Biosafety Courses (May 2013) [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/biosafety/training/timetable](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/biosafety/training/timetable)
- Biosafety Practitioner Level 1 (Foundation), w/c 7th October 2013, [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training/bti](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training/bti)
- Fire Steward and Fire Extinguisher theory and practical use (11th June 2013) [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/fire-safety/training/timetable](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/fire-safety/training/timetable)
- First Aid at Work Annual Refresher (24th May 2013) [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training/first-aid/first-aid-refresher](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training/first-aid/first-aid-refresher)

For more information on H&S training courses go to [www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/health-safety/training)