

CCM e-News Brief

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[Compliments of Charlotte Bishop, President, Creative Case Management, Inc.]

OSHA in 2015. Beginning January 1, 2015, there will be a change to what covered employers are required to report to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Employers will now be required to report all workrelated fatalities within 8 hours and all in-patient hospitalizations, amputations, and losses of an eye within 24 hours of finding out about the incident. Previously, employers were required to report all workplace fatalities and when three or more workers were hospitalized in the same incident. The updated reporting requirements are not simply paperwork but have a life-saving purpose: they will enable employers and workers to prevent future injuries by identifying and eliminating the most serious workplace hazards. Employers have three options for reporting these severe incidents to OSHA. They can call their nearest area office during normal business hours, call the 24-hour OSHA hotline at 1-800-321-OSHA (1-800-321-6742), or they can report online at www.osha.gov/report_online. For more information and resources, including a new YouTube video, visit OSHA's webpage on the updated reporting requirements.

Employers under Federal OSHA's jurisdiction must begin reporting by January 1. Establishments in a state with a State run OSHA program should contact their state plan for the implementation date.

<http://www.workerscompensation.com/compnewsnetwork/news/20352-osha-update-new-reporting-requirements-start-january-1.html>

Comp an Attitude? A stubborn stigma persists toward injured workers who file workers' compensation claims, according to a new survey commissioned by Summit Pharmacy:

- Nearly two in five Americans (37 percent) believe "most workers' compensation claims are made by people who don't want to work."
- One in three American workers (34 percent) believe if they were injured on the job, "it would be a nightmare process to get the pain medication(s) my doctor prescribed."
- More than one-third of Americans (35 percent) agreed with this statement: "You need a PhD to complete all the necessary paperwork associated with a worker's compensation claim."

The survey of more than 2,000 adults (aged 18+) was conducted online from September 29-October 1 by Harris Poll on behalf of Summit Pharmacy, which preserves the rights of injured workers by helping them get the doctor-prescribed medications they need, while working with attorneys and physicians to expedite the worker's compensation claims process.

"The vast majority of workers are holding up their end of the bargain by putting in an honest day's effort," said Dr. Joel Morton, founder, president and medical director, Summit Pharmacy Inc. "Too often, injured workers face stigma and complications as they attempt to wade through complicated and frustrating bureaucracy. Work-related injuries often create a spiral of despair that affects entire families, sometimes permanently."

<http://www.workerscompensation.com/compnewsnetwork/news/20312-37-of-americans-believe-most-workers-compensation-claimants-don-t-want-to-work.html>

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