

# CCM e-News Brief

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

**OSHA Appointment.** Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels has appointed Bill Perry as the new director of the agency's Directorate of Standards and Guidance, effective Aug. 24, 2014. Perry most recently served as deputy director in the Directorate of Standards and Guidance. In his new role, Perry is responsible for directing technical analysis and scientific research to develop standards and guidance materials, and overseeing regulatory development on a range of occupational safety and health topics. "Bill has been a tremendous asset to this agency for many years and I am confident that he will be an effective leader in developing occupational safety and health standards that accomplish the agency's mission of protecting America's workers," said Assistant Secretary Michaels. Perry began his federal career at OSHA in 1994 as a health scientist in the Directorate of Health Standards. In that capacity, he served on several project teams to develop standards for crystalline silica, hexavalent chromium, butadiene, respiratory protection programs, updated permissible exposure limits for hazardous chemicals, ergonomics and a number of safety standards. Prior to joining OSHA, Perry was vice president of a consulting firm that assisted OSHA in conducting health risk assessments, control technology evaluations and economic impact studies for several agency standards. Perry graduated from the University of Maryland with bachelor and master degrees in microbiology, and is certified in the Comprehensive Practice of Industrial Hygiene. Source:

<http://www.workerscompensation.com/compnewsnetwork/news/19676-osha-names-new-director-of-its-standards-and-guidance-directorate.html>

**OSHA Update.** Employers continue to deal with OSHA under the Medicare Secondary Payer Statute and now new rules being considered by OSHA. On November 8, 2013, OSHA published a notice of proposed rulemaking to amend the agency's regulations on reporting injuries and illnesses. OSHA is concerned that injury reporting may be inaccurate because employers may have policies that discourage employees from reporting injuries. Therefore, OSHA is considering three provisions:

- 1) A requirement that employers inform their employees of their right to report injuries and illnesses free from discrimination or retaliation;
- 2) A provision requiring that any injury and illness reporting requirements established by the employer be reasonable and not unduly burdensome; and,
- 3) A prohibition against disciplining employees for reporting injuries or illnesses.

OSHA is asking the following questions:

- Do you or does your employer currently inform employees of their right to report injuries and illnesses? If so, please describe how and when this information is provided.
- Are there any difficulties or barriers an employer might face in trying to provide such information to its employees? If so, please describe them.
- How might an employer best provide this information: orally to the employee, through a written notice, posting or in some other manner?

Adverse actions mentioned by participants in public meetings with OSHA include automatically disciplining those who seek medical attention and requiring an employee who reported an injury to undergo drug testing where there was no reason to suspect drug use. Source:

<http://www.workerscompensation.com/compnewsnetwork/workers-comp-blogwire/19674-osha-is-considering-new-reporting-procedures-for-employers-for-work-injuries.html>

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