Medical Services at Construction Job Sites

Construction employers are required to provide medical services at job sites. The requirements include:

- The availability of medical personnel for advice and consultation on matters of occupational health.
- Making provisions prior to the start of the construction project for prompt medical attention in case of serious injury.
- An infirmary, clinic, hospital, or physician that is reasonably accessible in terms of time and distance, or having someone who has a valid certificate in first-aid training available at the work site if you don’t.
- Readily available first-aid supplies.
- Means to transport an injured person to a physician or hospital.
- Posting emergency numbers for physicians, hospitals, and ambulances in a conspicuous location if you do not have 911 service.
- Suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of the eyes and body in the work area for immediate emergency use, on sites where any person may be exposed to injurious corrosive materials.

Falling objects can be brutal if you don’t protect your noodle.

Safety Tip #7

Safety First  Safety Last  Safety Always
Additional Information for Presenters

Review the information provided on the reverse side of this safety tip sheet. Please refrain from reading the information verbatim—paraphrase it instead.

Talking Points:
The phrase “reasonably accessible in terms of time” means the amount of time that can pass before the onset of irreversible, serious medical consequences. It is well established that when an individual has stopped breathing or is in cardiac failure, brain damage can occur after 4 minutes.

According to the National Safety Council Injury Facts 2004, more than 39 million injuries and hospital visits were reported in the U.S. in 2004, both work and non-work related.

OSHA Standards That May Apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1910.134</td>
<td>Respiratory protection (general industry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910.151</td>
<td>Medical services and first aid (general industry)</td>
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<tr>
<td>1910.1030(c)(2)</td>
<td>Bloodborne pathogens</td>
</tr>
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<td>1926.21</td>
<td>Safety training and education</td>
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<tr>
<td>1926.50</td>
<td>Medical services and first aid (construction industry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926.103</td>
<td>Respiratory protection (construction industry)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Links:
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration
  [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)
- Minnesota Safety Council
  [www.mnsafetycouncil.org](http://www.mnsafetycouncil.org)
- National Safety Council
  [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

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