



## **Medical Referral Notification: We Do It For You**

We frequently receive calls from our mobile test van clients regarding proper medical referral follow-up protocol.

CFR 29 1910.95 does mandate certain follow-up actions when medical referrals are made based upon audiometric tests.

When test results are reviewed and indicate the need for a medical referral, the employee is notified of this fact in the notification letter.

OSHA requires that employees requiring medical referral be notified of this fact in writing.

*In most cases, the medical referral compliance requirement is now satisfied once the letter informing an employee of the need for referral is received.*

It is, however, suggested that a signed copy of the notification be maintained with the employee's file for documentation.

This is not to say, however, that medical referrals be forgotten. We suggest that a facility representative follow-up with all individuals having received a medical referral to reinforce the need to consult with their personal physician or Ear, Nose, and Throat physician.

Many companies we serve have a policy of covering the cost of initial physician visits. However, OSHA does not mandate this protocol. Companies are required to pay for physician follow-up if it found by a physician that a medical problem related to the ear is occupational.

Proper follow-up with regard to medical follow-up is a very important component in the successful Hearing Conservation Program. By giving employees written notification of medical referrals, the T K Group is hopefully making Hearing Loss Prevention Program a little less difficult to manage.

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