



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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