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## **AOHP Designated a NIOSH *Total Worker Health*® Affiliate**

WARRENDALE, PA — The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) in July 2017 that designates AOHP a NIOSH *Total Worker Health*® Affiliate.

NIOSH launched the *Total Worker Health* program in June 2011 to advance the overall safety, health and well-being of workers. *Total Worker Health* is defined as policies, programs and practices that integrate protection from work-related safety and health hazards with promotion of injury and illness prevention efforts to advance worker well-being.

“As a leading advocate and resource for health and safety protections for healthcare workers, AOHP is excited to grow our partnership with NIOSH as a designated *Total Worker Health* affiliate,” comments AOHP Executive President Mary Bliss, RN, COHN. “AOHP fully supports the *Total Worker Health* program's emphasis on improving the work environment and working conditions to better safeguard workers and improve their health.”

This agreement promotes the development of and participation in mutually beneficial activities between NIOSH and AOHP to advance the *Total Worker Health* initiative and to promote the safety, health and well-being of workers. This will be accomplished through a number of collaborative activities including research; research translation; and the development and promotion of appropriate programs, policies and practices, achieved through sponsorship of training, education forums and other outreach initiatives. As an affiliate, AOHP will:

- Disseminate fundamental information and updates about *Total Worker Health* through the association's monthly and quarterly print and online publications.
- Support members in including *Total Worker Health* information during chapter meetings.
- Encourage individual members to utilize *Total Worker Health* information and resources to improve health, safety and wellness efforts at an organizational level.
- Collaborate with NIOSH to provide *Total Worker Health* topics at AOHP's Annual National Conference.
- Share best practices to reduce significant exposures to blood/body fluids from the AOHP EXPO-S.T.O.P. survey.
- Collaborate on areas of concern in healthcare safety and health, such as safety culture, shift work/long work hours, leave management and workplace violence.

AOHP is a national association representing thousands of healthcare workers whose vision is to be the defining resource and leading advocate for occupational health and safety in healthcare. AOHP promotes health, safety and well-being for healthcare workers through: advocating for employee health and safety; occupational health education and networking opportunities; health and safety advancement through best

practice and research; and partnering with employers, regulatory agencies and related associations. For more information about AOHP or the MOA, contact Annie Wiest, AOHP Executive Director, at 800-362-4347, or e-mail [info@aohp.org](mailto:info@aohp.org).

NIOSH is a research agency focused on the study of worker safety and health, and it empowers employers and workers to create safe and healthy workplaces. Established through the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, NIOSH is part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. For more information about NIOSH, visit the website at [www.cdc.gov/niosh/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/).

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