

Contact: Annie Wiest, Executive Director  
Association of Occupational Health Professionals  
in Healthcare (AOHP)  
125 Warrendale Bayne Road, Suite 375  
Warrendale, PA 15086  
a.wiest@kamo-ms.com  
800-362-4347 www.aohp.org

## **AOHP Position Statements**

### **Promote the Work of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare**

WARRENDALE, PA — As a national leader in occupational health in healthcare, the Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) publishes position statements that communicate the association's perspective regarding the health, safety, and well-being of healthcare personnel (HCP). The AOHP Executive Board recently reviewed and updated these position statements, which are available in their entirety on the association's website. The seven position statements include:

#### **Confidentiality of Employee Health Records**

Occupational health professionals (OHP) in healthcare settings are charged with the protection of the individual worker's right to privacy regarding their employee health records. AOHP supports and advocates for the confidentiality of these records in accordance with regulatory requirements.

#### **Injury and Illness Prevention Programs**

AOHP strongly supports the creation and implementation of injury and illness prevention programs (safety and health management systems) in all healthcare settings. These programs decrease injury and illness, reduce costs, and increase productivity, service quality, and employee satisfaction.

#### **Safe Patient Handling**

Back injuries and musculoskeletal disorders related to patient handling are the leading cause of workplace disability for HCP. AOHP supports actions, policies, and laws that establish a safer environment of care for HCP and patients through safe patient handling practices.

#### **The Critical Role of Occupational Health in Healthcare**

OHP provide services to HCP in an increasingly complex technological and regulated environment. AOHP advocates the presence of designated OHP in healthcare settings with expertise in promoting a culture of safety for HCP, which leads to improved health outcomes for patients and communities.

#### **Influenza Vaccination of Healthcare Personnel**

AOHP encourages members and their organizations to assess HCP for immunization status and to use best practice information to properly immunize them against vaccine preventable communicable diseases at no charge and in compliance with state and federal regulations.

#### **Respiratory Protection for Healthcare Personnel**

AOHP advocates for the health and safety of HCP by supporting education and training to build respiratory protection competence in OHP and HCP, as well as ongoing research to analyze respirator use and development.

#### **Workplace Violence (WPV)**

AOHP is engaged in the prevention and management of WPV events in healthcare facilities by advocating for OHPs to be leaders in WPV prevention programs, participating on the WPV Prevention Committee, and promoting education and training, as well as reporting of WPV events.

AOHP is a national association whose vision is to be the defining resource and leading advocate for occupational health in healthcare. AOHP promotes health, safety, and well-being for HCP 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, please call AOHP Headquarters at 800-362-4347, or e-mail [info@aohp.org](mailto:info@aohp.org). The position statements are located on the AOHP webpage at <https://aohp.org/aohp/WORKTOOLS/PositionStatements.aspx>.