

OSHA Guidance for Recording Cases of Coronavirus19

OSHA has issued interim guidance for enforcing the requirement of 29 CFR Part 1904 with respect to the recording of occupational illnesses, specifically cases of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). With the exception of healthcare industry, emergency response organizations (e.g., emergency medical, firefighting, and law enforcement services), and correctional institutions OSHA is not requiring the reporting of a COVID-19 illness unless it meet the following:

1. There is objective evidence that a COVID-19 case may be work-related. This could include, for example, a number of cases developing among workers who work closely together without an alternative explanation; and
2. The evidence was reasonably available to the employer. For purposes of this memorandum, examples of reasonably available evidence include information given to the employer by employees, as well as information that an employer learns regarding its employees' health and safety in the ordinary course of managing its business and employees.

This enforcement policy will help employers focus their response efforts on implementing **good hygiene practices** in their workplaces, and otherwise mitigating COVID-19's effects, rather than on making difficult work-relatedness decisions in circumstances where there is community transmission.

OSHA is providing frequent updates at its website at www.osha.gov/coronavirus . The complete Enforcement Memo can be found here <https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-04-10/enforcement-guidance-recording-cases-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>