

# OSHA INFOSHEET

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## Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire

**Respirators must be used in workplaces in which employees are exposed to hazardous airborne contaminants. When respiratory protection is required employers must have a respirator protection program as specified in OSHA's Respiratory Protection standard (29 CFR 1910.134). Before wearing a respirator, workers must first be medically evaluated using the mandatory medical questionnaire or an equivalent method. To facilitate these medical evaluations, this INFOSHEET includes the mandatory medical questionnaire to be used for these evaluations.**

### Medical Evaluation and Questionnaire Requirements

The requirements of the medical evaluation and for using the questionnaire are provided below:

- The employer must identify a physician or other licensed health care professional (PLHCP) to perform all medical evaluations using the medical questionnaire in Appendix C of the Respiratory Protection standard or a medical examination that obtains the same information. (See Paragraph (e)(2)(i).)
- The medical evaluation must obtain the information requested in Sections 1 and 2, Part A of Appendix C. The questions in Part B of Appendix C may be added at the discretion of the health care professional. (See Paragraph (e)(2)(ii).)
- The employer must ensure that a follow-up medical examination is provided for any employee who gives a positive response to any question among questions 1 through 8 in Part A Section 2, of Appendix C, or whose initial medical examination demonstrates the need for a follow-up medical examination. The employer must provide the employee with an opportunity to discuss the questionnaire and examination results with the PLHCP. (See Paragraph (e)(3)(i).)
- The medical questionnaire and examinations must be administered confidentially during the employee's normal working hours or at a time and place convenient to the employee and in a manner that ensures that he or she understands its content. The employer must not review the employee's responses, and the questionnaire must be provided directly to the PLHCP. (See Paragraph (e)(4)(i).)

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### Excerpt from Appendix C of 29 CFR 1910.134: OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire

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**To the employer:** Answers to questions in Section 1, and to question 9 in Section 2 of Part A, do not require a medical examination.

**To the employee:** Your employer must allow you to answer this questionnaire during normal working hours, or at a time and place that is convenient to you. To maintain your confidentiality, your employer or supervisor must not look at or review your answers, and your employer must tell you how to deliver or send this questionnaire to the health care professional who will review it.

Once filled out, this form must be given to the PLHCP. This form should **not** be submitted to OSHA.



	YES	NO
c. Chronic bronchitis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Emphysema	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Pneumonia	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Tuberculosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Silicosis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Pneumothorax (collapsed lung)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Lung cancer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Broken ribs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Any chest injuries or surgeries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Any other lung problem that you've been told about	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you <i>currently</i> have any of the following symptoms of pulmonary or lung illness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Shortness of breath	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Shortness of breath when walking fast on level ground or walking up a slight hill or incline	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Shortness of breath when walking with other people at an ordinary pace on level ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Have to stop for breath when walking at your own pace on level ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Shortness of breath when washing or dressing yourself	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Shortness of breath that interferes with your job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Coughing that produces phlegm (thick sputum)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Coughing that wakes you early in the morning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Coughing that occurs mostly when you are lying down	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Coughing up blood in the last month	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Wheezing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Wheezing that interferes with your job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Chest pain when you breathe deeply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
n. Any other symptoms that you think may be related to lung problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Have you <i>ever had</i> any of the following cardiovascular or heart problems?		
a. Heart attack	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Stroke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Angina	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Heart failure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO
e. Swelling in your legs or feet (not caused by walking)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Heart arrhythmia (heart beating irregularly)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. High blood pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Any other heart problem that you've been told about	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Have you <i>ever had</i> any of the following cardiovascular or heart symptoms?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Frequent pain or tightness in your chest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Pain or tightness in your chest during physical activity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Pain or tightness in your chest that interferes with your job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. In the past two years, have you noticed your heart skipping or missing a beat	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Heartburn or indigestion that is not related to eating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Any other symptoms that you think may be related to heart or circulation problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Do you <i>currently</i> take medication for any of the following problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Breathing or lung problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Heart trouble	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Blood pressure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Seizures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. If you've used a respirator, have you <i>ever had</i> any of the following problems? (If you've never used a respirator, check the following space and go to question 9.) <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Eye irritation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Skin allergies or rashes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Anxiety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. General weakness or fatigue	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Any other problem that interferes with your use of a respirator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Would you like to talk to the health care professional who will review this questionnaire about your answers to this questionnaire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p>Questions 10 to 15 below must be answered by every employee who has been selected to use either a full-facepiece respirator or a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). For employees who have been selected to use other types of respirators, answering these questions is voluntary.</p>		
10. Have you <i>ever</i> lost vision in either eye (temporarily or permanently)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Do you <i>currently</i> have any of the following vision problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Wear contact lenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Wear glasses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Color blind	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Any other eye or vision problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

	YES	NO
12. Have you <i>ever had</i> an injury to your ears, including a broken eardrum?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Do you <i>currently</i> have any of the following hearing problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Difficulty hearing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Wear a hearing aid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Any other hearing or ear problem	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. Have you <i>ever had</i> a back injury?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. Do you <i>currently</i> have any of the following musculoskeletal problems?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Weakness in any of your arms, hands, legs, or feet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Back pain	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Difficulty fully moving your arms and legs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Pain and stiffness when you lean forward or backward at the waist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Difficulty fully moving your head up or down	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Difficulty fully moving your head side to side	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Difficulty bending at your knees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Difficulty squatting to the ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Climbing a flight of stairs or a ladder carrying more than 25 lbs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Any other muscle or skeletal problem that interferes with using a respirator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

This infosheet does not include the questions in Part B because they are not mandatory; rather, they may be added to the questionnaire at the discretion of the health care professional who will review the questionnaire.

### OSHA Educational Materials

OSHA has an extensive publications program. For a listing of free items, visit OSHA's web site at [www.osha.gov/publications](http://www.osha.gov/publications) or contact the OSHA Publications Office, U.S. Department of

Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., N-3101, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone (202) 693-1888 or fax to (202) 693-2498.

### Contacting OSHA

To report an emergency, file a complaint or seek OSHA advice, assistance or products, call (800) 321-OSHA (6742) or contact your nearest OSHA regional, area, or State Plan office; TTY: 1-877-889-5627.

This InfoSheet is not a standard or regulation, and it creates no new legal obligations. It contains recommendations as well as descriptions of mandatory safety and health standards. The recommendations are advisory in nature, informational in content, and are intended to assist employers in providing a safe and healthful workplace. The *Occupational Safety and Health Act* requires employers to comply with safety and health standards and regulations promulgated by OSHA or by a state with an OSHA-approved state plan. In addition, the Act's General Duty Clause, Section 5(a)(1), requires employers to provide their employees with a workplace free from recognized hazards likely to cause death or serious physical harm.



U.S. Department of Labor

