

Occupational Medicine Rotation

The Hazard Evaluation and Technical Assistance Branch of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health creates an exciting opportunity for medical residents to engage in occupational medicine in a public health setting. Through on-site investigations, medical evaluations, and exposure and risk assessments, the branch gives medical residents first-hand experience in creating safer, healthier workplaces and provides an excellent introduction to CDC/NIOSH in Cincinnati, Ohio.



National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health

As a vital part of CDC, NIOSH provides research, information, education and training in the field of occupational safety and health.

NIOSH professionals protect workers by:

- performing exposure assessments of hazardous conditions and materials
- developing and evaluating protective measures
- documenting disease, injury, and worksite exposures
- disseminating findings to workers, unions, and managers



Hazard Evaluation and Technical Assistance Branch

During health hazard evaluations (HHEs), NIOSH scientists provide medical, industrial hygiene and epidemiologic technical assistance to worksites where occupational health hazards, illness, and injury outbreaks occur. NIOSH, a federal agency, has right of entry into workplaces all over the United States.

During HHE site visits, medical residents participate in labor-management meetings, tour the facility, interview workers, and perform medical examinations if needed. Activities may include epidemiologic studies, biological and environmental testing, and review of medical records and worksite illness/injury logs. Residents will work alongside epidemiologists, physicians, nurses, safety engineers, industrial hygienists, statisticians, toxicologists, and other professionals during these HHEs.

The HHE program provides an opportunity for residents to enter workplaces all across the country, interview workers, and apply their skills and knowledge in occupational health and safety practices.

Recent Health Hazard Evaluation Projects

- Coccidioidomycosis among prison employees – California
- Tuberculosis among long term care facility employees – Alaska
- Lead at an aircraft repair facility – Colorado
- Heat stress and rhabdomyolysis in wildland firefighters – Idaho
- Musculoskeletal Disorders and Traumatic Injuries Among Employees at Poultry Processing Plant – South Carolina
- Lead at an Automotive Lead-acid Battery Recycling Company – Puerto Rico
- Safety Climate and Pharmaceutical Dust Exposures at a Mail Order Pharmacy – Tennessee
- Metals and noise at an orthopedic implant device manufacturer – Florida
- Synthetic cannabinoid exposures among federal investigators during an illicit drug raid – Nevada
- Firearm noise and lead during helicopter gunnery target training exercises – Florida

Goals of the Rotation

- To engage residents in on-site health hazard evaluations
- To respond to inquiries from employers, labor unions, employees, and health care professionals
- To give residents a better understanding of the role and function of governmental industrial hygienists and occupational health physicians



Residents are assigned a specific topic related to an ongoing HHE and conduct further research on the topic, completes data analyses, or performs other relevant tasks. The resident will present their findings to HETAB staff at the end of the rotation.

Cincinnati



Cincinnati is a city known for its great beauty with steep hills, wooded suburbs, a picturesque downtown riverfront, and four definite seasons. You'll find friendly neighbors, great job opportunities, excellent schools, and lots of things to do. To find out more about our great city visit www.cincinnatiachamber.com/.

Contacts

To learn more about Resident's Rotation in the HHE Program contact:



Bruce Bernard, M.D., M.P.H.
Chief Medical Officer
BBernard@cdc.gov
513-841-4589



Loren Tapp, M.D., M.S.
Medical Officer
LTapp@cdc.gov
513-841-4404



Judi Eisenberg, M.D., M.S.
Medical Officer
JEisenberg@cdc.gov
513-841-4468

For More Information

...about NIOSH visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/

...about the HHE Program visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/

...about the Occupational Medicine Rotation visit www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/occ-med/

We look forward to seeing you here!

Photos by NIOSH