Valley Fever Awareness Syllabus

Time: 2 hours

Maximum Class Size: 20

Prerequisites: None

Course Description:

A new California law, AB 203, requires that construction employers to train their employees on minimizing the risk of Valley Fever by May 1, 2020*. This course is designed to empower the participant with the skills and knowledge to safely and productively work in outdoor construction where there is a risk of Valley Fever infection. The curriculum, developed in part by the California Department of Public Health, will enable the participant to avoid potential dangers in the workplace by identifying the area and environment where the fungus can be found and the work conditions that may expose them to the hazard.

*This training requirement also applies to the Laborers’ training sites in Arizona

Goals/Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Define what is Valley Fever is and how it is contracted.
2. Describe areas, environmental conditions and types of work that pose a high-risk of contracting Valley Fever.
3. List 3 – 4 personal factors that put employees at higher risk of infection or disease development.
4. List 2 – 3 personal and environmental exposure prevention methods.
5. Define the importance of early detection, diagnosis, and treatment to prevent the disease from progressing.
6. List 3 – 7 common signs and symptoms of Valley Fever,
7. Explain the importance of reporting symptoms to the employer and seeking prompt medical attention from a physician for appropriate diagnosis and treatment.
8. Explain the prognosis and common treatment for Valley Fever.

Valley Fever Standards

- California Assembly Bill No. 203 Chapter 712 Occupational Safety and Health: Valley Fever
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- California Code of Regulation, Title 8 Section 3203 (This standard requires employers to implement an injury and illness prevention program).
- California Code of Regulation, Title 8 Section 5144 (Requires employers to provide respirators when necessary to protect the health of employees).

Classroom Rules and Procedures

- Upon entering classroom, all participants must sign in and be seated by the set start time.
- Class will consist of a combination of lecture, video, and handouts.

Textbooks/Readings/Materials

- LTS Valley Fever Awareness Student Handout Packet (HO):
  - Building Trades Bulletin April 16, 2020
  - Preventing Work-Related Valley Fever (CDPH)
  - Laborers Health & Safety Fund Health Alert: Valley Fever
- Lesson Plan: CDPH Tailgate Training Guide-Valley Fever March 2020
- Flipchart and Projector
- Computer with speakers
- Paper, pens, and highlighter
- Valley Fever Exit Exams A & B

Tools/Equipment/Other Materials

- N/A

Personal Protective Equipment

- Mask and gloves required for in-person classes until further notice

Course Requirements

To receive credit for the course, participants must:

- Be present for full two hours
- Participate in all classroom exercises
- Pass a written exam
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Course Policies

• Participants must be on-time and ready to work.

• Participants must return from breaks on-time.

• Participants must participate in each exercise and assignment

Assessment and Grading

Participants will be assessed on the following:

• All written exams must be passed with a score of 80% or above.

Safety

• Failure to maintain and use PPE may result in dismissal from the course