



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Office of the Chief Health and Medical Officer – Occupational Health
Monthly Newsletter June 2011

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◆ 2011 Occupational Health (OH) Meeting

Update: [Registration](#) (no fee for attendees) continues for the [2011 OH Meeting](#) taking place at the [Albuquerque Marriott](#). The Meeting [agenda](#) is available on the [NASA OH website](#). A block of hotel rooms have been reserved at the [Albuquerque Marriott](#) at the government per diem rate of \$81. The availability of rooms at the government per diem rate is guaranteed until Friday, June 24. All [reservations](#) after this date will be accepted by a group rate based on availability. The Theme this year is *“Portals to the Future: People, Partnerships, and Prevention”*. We are excited about the diverse speaker and topic line up at this year’s event. We are hopeful that during this time of transition and significant change across NASA the meeting will provide attendees with an increased awareness and understanding of the issues facing NASA OH programs while giving them tools to adequately address these challenges. At a time when we are all looking for value, the annual NASA OH Meeting continues to offer tremendous value for minimal cost. Continuing Education Units (CEUs) are offered in almost all OH disciplines helping all certified personnel meet their CEU requirements. We look forward to seeing you there!

◆ **EHR Update:** The final preparations for the Medgate GX training at Langley Research Center (LaRC) are on track. Dr. Rafiq has visited with LaRC Center personnel as part of the preparation for training and “go live” and weekly meetings have been held with LaRC medical and industrial hygiene to review workflow, staffing, and training needs. The LaRC medical staff training on Medgate GX is scheduled for June 14 – 16 and the industrial hygiene staff training is scheduled for June 15 – 16.

◆ **HealthierYou 2011:** The Walk to Wellness (WTW) Campaign ended on May 31. Participants have until June 15, as a grace period, to log their activity but their goal must have been reached by May 31. We are awaiting Center specific incentive files and agency-wide outcomes reports from Mayo Clinic. The HPW ViTs will be held on Tuesday, June 7 at 1:30PM. It is essential that at least one member of your Center HPW team to attend this meeting. Ms. Lucy Polk from the OPM will be discussing The WellCheck Survey which will be circulating in early summer, as it has the past two years. We need to be well prepared for this data call. Please review the 2011 HPW Action Plan prior to June 7. NASA is held accountable to this Plan. Please consider focusing on a summer season campaign. We have provided information about heat related syndromes, Click it or Ticket, and Don’t Fry Day (skin Cancer prevention). We

have also forwarded to the team a social media tool kit including you with outreach ideas. Please follow through as appropriate since each Center has specific requirements.

◆ **New EAP Counselor at Langley:** Please welcome Mike Verano as Langley’s new EAP counselor. Mike is a licensed professional counselor, a licensed marriage and family therapist, and an EAP specialist. Mike has his Masters in Education from the College of William Mary and has 27 years of experience in the mental health field. He is the author of “The Healing Power of Stress, Don’t Even Think About it: Reflections on Stress and Mindfulness” and “The Zen of Cancer”. Mike will be assisting Langley employees onsite every Thursday from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm and will be available offsite or by phone in Richmond, Chester, or Williamsburg offices during the other days of the week.



◆ **NPR 1800.1 Exam Matrix Update:** OCHMO reviewed Crane Operator Physical Examinations protocol. NASA, ANSI and OSHA standards were assessed. In keeping with industry standards, the frequency of examinations has been changed from every two years to every three years. The updated [Physical Exam](#) Matrix is available on the OHP website.

◆ **OSHA's New Web Pages:** OSHA is conducting a new Heat Illness Campaign, which features a website with [educational materials](#) and a curriculum to be used for [workplace training](#). OSHA also has a new [Injury and Illness Prevention Programs Web page](#) to provide easy to use, informative and useful guidance on how to implement an effective system for finding and fixing workplace safety and health hazards.



◆ **NASA Industrial Hygienists (IHs) Gather in Portland, Oregon:** Over 25 NASA Center personnel attended the [American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition](#) held from May 14-19 in Portland. The Conference theme was *Inspire Integrate and Innovate*. At the opening general session on Monday Gene Kranz from NASA gave a presentation recounting lessons of leadership learned in NASA Mission Control that brought a standing ovation from the attendees. Multiple presentations were given by NASA Center IH personnel throughout the week. Pictured is a number of the NASA Center IHs who participated in the 2011 AIHCE Fun Run which is a fundraiser for the American Industrial Hygiene Foundation.



◆ **Upcoming OH ViTs & Webinars:**

- Health Promotion ViTs – June 7, 1:30-2:30 EDT
- EAP ViTs – June 14, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- EH ViTs – July 22, 11:00-12:00 EDT
- Health Physics ViTs – July 27, 11:00-12:00 EDT

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