

LECTURES ONE- FOUR

Occupational exposure assessment And protection regulations

MODULE

Occupational exposure assessment And protection regulations

Prof. Bahiga Hafez

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At completion of this module the participants will be able to:

- Recognize reproductive hazards in any occupational settings.
- Illustrate the main principles of evaluation of various reproductive hazards.
- Calculate the concentration of chemical reproductive hazards in workplace.
- Discriminate different types of occupational exposure limits.
- Select the most suitable type of occupational exposure limits.
- Compare the measures levels & occupational exposure limits.
- Decide the acceptability of reproductive risks.
- Recommend the appropriate control measures to reduce exposure to reproductive risks.

Lecture 1: Occupational Exposure and Reproductive Health

1. Workplace Hazards to Reproductive Health:

Reproductive hazards are defined as *“substances or agents that may affect the reproductive health of women or men or the ability of couples to have healthy children.”*

OSHA and NIOSH stated that a large number of workplace chemicals, physical, and biologic agents can damage the reproductive systems of both male and female workers, resulting in infertility, spontaneous abortion, developmental impairment or death in an embryo, fetus or child. In the past, OSHA has issued a limited number of standards that acknowledge and provide partial protection from reproductive risks.

Recently, OSHA is developing an action plan to reduce worker exposures to reproductive hazards but is not initiating rulemaking at this time.