Alcohol Awareness Month

Each year (since 1987) the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD) sponsors activities in April to provide public information on the disease of alcoholism. Substance use disorders pose significant risks in the workplace—up to 40% of industrial fatalities and 47% of industrial injuries can be linked to alcohol consumption and alcoholism (NCADD website). More on workplace issues at

NCADD - www.ncadd.org/facts/workplac.html


George Washington Univ. Medical Ctr - www.ensuringsolutions.org


Iowa Practice Improvement Collaborative - www.uiowa.edu/~iowapic/webportal/

Required Drug/Alcohol Testing for Transit Employers

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) requires transit employers to randomly test a percentage of “safety-sensitive” employees for drugs and for alcohol. For 2005, those percentages will remain 50% for drug testing and 10% for alcohol - http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20051800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2005/05-4532.htm

OSHA Notes Employers’ Injury/Illness Rates

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has notified approximately 14,000 employers of their higher-than-average injury and illness rates. The notified workplaces had more than 6.5 DART instances per 100 full-time workers (DART = days away from work + restricted work activity + job transfer). National DART rate is 2.6 per 100 workers (2003 data). The employers are encouraged to take steps to improve the safety and health environment in their workplaces - www.compliancereggs.com

Workers’ Memorial Day – April 28

60,000+ workers die and 6 million are injured on the job each year. This AFL-CIO observance is the anniversary of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and a similar day of remembrance in Canada - http://www.aflcio.org/yourjobeconomy/safety/memorial/

Workshops - Conferences - Training Opportunities

Events sponsored by Worksafe Iowa and members of its Associate Network - www.public-health.uiowa.edu/worksafe/education/continuing_ed.html

UI HealthWorks is a member of the WORKSAFE IOWA Occupational Medicine Associate Network, the only university-affiliated network of occupational health providers. WORKSAFE IOWA is an outreach program of the Department of Occupational and Environmental Health in the College of Public Health at the University of Iowa (www.public-health.uiowa.edu/worksafe).