



[Inside this issue]

AUG/SEPT_13

FEATURES ▶ ▶ ▶ LEGAL ▶ ▶ ▶ NEWS ▶ ▶ ▶ RESEARCH ▶ ▶ ▶ EXPERT WITNESS

- 03 LEADER**
In need of evidence A lack of evidence that workplace-based return-to-work programmes are effective could be addressed if their evaluation was planned from the outset, rather than as an afterthought.
- 04 NEWS**
 ... 148 workers killed ... tax breaks for health ... the next of the MoHaWK data ... GPs, work and health ... working with cystic fibrosis ... HSE consults on asbestos and COSHH approved CoPs ... recorded consultations ... domestic abuse ... new guidance on improving workers' wellbeing proposed ... not so fit notes ... young BOHS/3M young hygienist award ... VRA standards of practice ... occupational disease across Europe
- 11 LEGAL NEWS**
 ... when I'm 65 or 66? – *Seldon v Clarkson, Wright and Jakes* ... unreasonable adjustment – *Wade v Sheffield Hallam University* ... employment tribunal rules ... nurses' indemnity insurance
- 13 FEATURE**
Assessing the benefits
 Rebecca Ghani investigates the continuing travails of the government's Work Capability Assessment. She talks to the provider of the assessments, Atos Healthcare, and healthcare practitioners.
- 19 FEATURE**
Unravelling RIDDOR
 Further changes to the existing regime for reporting workplace injuries, dangerous occurrences, and occupational diseases will come into force in October. Paul Suff examines the proposed alterations – the second tranche of changes in 18 months – and gauges reaction from interested parties.
- 24 FEATURE**
Carpal tunnel syndrome
 In the second of his two-part series, Dr Roger Cooke, a consultant in occupational medicine, describes the clinical diagnosis process and how OH services can best manage the condition.
- 28 DILEMMA**
Health, safety and the insurance industry
 Is the insurance industry in the UK doing enough to encourage employers to actively manage occupational health and safety? Erin Flood, policy adviser at the Association of British Insurers, and Roger Bibbings, occupational safety adviser at RoSPA, give their views.
- 30 EXPERT WITNESS**
Blowing the whistle – loud and clear
 Following high-profile management failures at the Care Quality Commission and several NHS trusts, our legal expert Diana Kloss explains the protection that is available to employees who 'blow the whistle' on institutional deficiencies in health and social care.
- 32 CONFERENCE NEWS**
Employment medicals and fitness for work
 Rebecca Ghani reports on a one-day conference on pre-employment health screening and fitness for work, hosted by the At Work Partnership. Health screening, discrimination and employment ... employment medical screening ... pre-employment enquiries about health and disability ... employment medicals ... employment in safety-critical industries ... assessing of fitness of existing employees
- 36 RESEARCH DIGEST**
 ... high-pitch, noisy distractions ... powder-free latex gloves ... facemask trials ... thirty years of nights ... occupational links to suicide ... bullying in NHS rife ... reduced working hours limit doctors' training
- 40 RESEARCH PLUS**
 Our compendium of published evidence on occupational health.
- 43 BRIEFING**
 ... your need-to-know guide to this issue