Audiometric Surveillance

1 PURPOSE

- The noise management program must include audiometric testing / surveillance to determine if occupational hearing loss is prevented by noise management control measures.

2 SCOPE

- Occupational hearing loss is one of the leading causes of work related disorders. Because occupational hearing loss happens gradually over time, employees’ often fail to notice changes in hearing ability.
DEFINITIONS

PROCESS

- Testing completed in an audiometric booth with measured noise levels less than 40dB.

- Audiometric surveillance completed as part of the pre hire process and offered than every one to three years depending on job and exposure levels.

- Any employee whose hearing deteriorates by 10dB or more from baseline at 3, 4 or 6 KHz will be retested after 48 hours (removal from noise or after days off).
  - Employee will be referred to Occupational Hygiene and Medical Advisor.
  - If hearing loss detected, employee consent obtained to follow up with leader to ensure all possible controls are in place.

- Results are confidential and stored on the employee health file.
  - Refer to Confidentiality Procedure (OH-E15-05).

ACCOUNTABILITIES

5.1 Accountability

- Occupational Health / Hygiene Services

5.2 Responsibility

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health / Hygiene</td>
<td>• Occupational Health / Hygiene Professionals</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Medical Services &amp; Injury Management Superintendent</td>
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REFERENCES

- Standard B7 Fitness for Work. Rio Tinto Occupational Health Standards.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION