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HSENI's Employment Medical Advisory Service

FAW update NI - 31/03/2016

EMAS has moved premises to:

HSENI Head Office
83 Ladas Drive
Belfast
BT6 9FR

Web: www.hseni.gov.uk

All enquiries should be emailed to emasmail@hseni.gov.uk

Policy regarding HSENI logos on First-Aid at Work (FAW) certificates

HSENI has a strict policy that its logo cannot be used on any certificate (FAW or otherwise) or website page. All FAW organisations are requested to read the relevant section on our website <https://www.hseni.gov.uk/content/crown-copyright> and comply with this policy.

Appointment of Chief Medical Adviser to HSENI

HSENI has appointed Professor David Fishwick, HSE GB's Chief Medical Adviser as HSENI's Chief Medical Adviser. Professor Fishwick is currently a Consultant Respiratory Physician in Sheffield, with a clinical and research interest in workplace, and particularly in respiratory, health. He also works as the Co-Director of the Centre for Workplace Health and is an Honorary Professor of Occupational and Environmental Respiratory Medicine at the University of Sheffield. He is the GMC Responsible Officer for HSE.

New HSENI FAW applications

With immediate effect HSENI is unable to issue or accept any new application forms for the approval of first-aid at work training providers. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and we will update the FAW section of the HSENI website should there be any change in this position.





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2015 European guidance

A section on first aid is included for the first time in the 2015 ERC Guidelines (<http://ercguidelines.elsevierresource.com/european-resuscitation-council-guidelines-resuscitation-2015-section-1-executive-summary>). It contains guidelines on haemostatic dressings and the use of tourniquets. HSENI has sought advice from HSE and we concur if a training provider is delivering the training to a high risk sector where there is a significant risk identified in the needs assessment e.g. forestry or elements of agriculture or construction, from that perspective HSENI would not object to it being taught on a workplace first aid course. On that basis where there has been a specific request by the client for this to be taught, then it will have to be a judgement of the training provider in consultation with the employer. It may be appropriate for the teaching to be added on as an additional extra to the FAW course, due to time constraints or if the majority of the other clients on the same course, have employment in a lower risk category e.g. office worker.

With regards to teaching these topics HSE considers the faculty of pre-hospital care (<https://fphc.rcsed.ac.uk/>) a responsible body in respect of what to teach and they have some information regarding tourniquets on their website:
<https://fphc.rcsed.ac.uk/media/1726/site-of-application-of-tourniquets.pdf>

It seems likely that further information from HSE will follow, and the voluntary aid organisations have indicated that a revised guidance/manual will be issued in due course.

Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982 Consultation

HSENI has gone out to consult on the amendments to The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982. The proposed changes will amend regulation 3(2) of the 1982 Regulations to remove the requirement for HSENI to approve the training and qualifications of appointed first-aid personnel.

It is also proposed to withdraw the Northern Approved Code of Practice "*First-aid at work - The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1982*" and to





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replace it with the guidance issued by the Health and Safety Executive in Great Britain.

The consultative document is available to read or download from the HSENI website www.hseni.gov.uk HSENI would welcome your comments on the proposals in this CD. The closing date for receipt of comments is no later than **12 noon 14 June 2016**.

Interim arrangements for HSENI approved training providers

With effect from 1st April 2016

HSENI will no longer:

- undertake proactive monitoring visits of existing training providers;
- approve new applications from first aid at work training providers;
- require course notifications, (AT7 forms) or any amendments to courses to be submitted; but

HSENI approved training providers will need to:

- submit an annual return to HSENI detailing the number of first-aid and emergency first-aid at work and refresher first-aid at work courses that have been run in each financial year, commencing 1st April 2016;
 - keep HSENI informed of any changes to contact details; and
 - keep HSENI informed of any changes to the accountable person.
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- **Certificates of Approval for HSENI first-aid at work (FAW) and emergency first-aid at work (EFAW) training providers**

All existing HSENI approved first-aid training providers will, irrespective of individual expiry dates, expire at midnight on 31 October 2016, at which point new arrangements will be put in place or legislative change will take effect. HSENI approved first-aid training providers with certificates that expire before 31 October 2016 will have their approval extended to this date without the need for re-approval documents to be submitted to HSENI. HSENI will not issue individual re-approval certificates to cover this extended period. Please note that HSENI reserves the right to revoke or amend the conditions of your approval prior to this date if it considers it appropriate to do so. Delegates' first-





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aid at work and emergency first-aid at work three year certificates remain valid until their date of expiry.

HSENI will also continue to recognise, subject to specified conditions, First-aid at Work and Emergency First-aid at Work as nationally recognised and accredited qualifications from training providers of Ofqual registered awarding organisations.

Monitoring visits

With the proposed changes to FAW and EFAW training HSENI has stopped undertaking proactive monitoring visits of training providers, effective immediately.

For the avoidance of doubt however, HSENI will continue to undertake reactive investigation visits where issued emerge or complaints are received.

