WHA™ workforce health assessors

Faster.
Easier.
Better.

WHA LEAD HEALTH MONITORING

Australian is the largest mineral producer and exporter of lead in the Western world, meaning occupational exposure to lead in considerably high. Mine workers are easily identifiable as an industry exposed to lead in the workplace; however, lead ore is also used to produce lead compounds, alloys, and pure metals. In turn these are used to create vehicle batteries, paint pigments and other materials, which makes education around occupational exposure to lead across a verse range of industries. Exposure to lead that is either inhaled or ingested can result in lead poisoning, which, if left untreated, can cause nerve, brain and kidney damage and anaemia.

Workplace activities that expose people to lead include:

- Spray painting
- Cutting, grinding, discing or buffing lead
- Handling components causing lead dust, such as dry lead pigments and lead-based UV stabilisers
- Manufacturing lead-acid batteries
- Fire assay
- Radiation or vehicle exhaust repairs
- Cutting of lead-painted structural steel
- Casting or melting alloys
- Lead-paint removal



WHERE ARE WE?

With extensive coverage across metro and regional Australia and New Zealand, we provide workforce medical assessments through our network of 75+ WHA clinics, supported by 300+ affiliated partners, or on-site at your location.



Legislative Requirements

Lead health monitoring medicals need to be conducted before the worker begins lead risk work. If your employees have not undertaken this initial monitoring, it must be conducted as soon as possible.

After the initial monitoring has taken place, biological monitoring (a stand-alone blood lead test) is conducted at different intervals based on whether the employee is: a) a males, or females not of reproductive capacity, or b) a females of reproductive capacity. This differentiation is made because lead can remain in a worker's system, consequently affecting any potential pregnancies in the future.



Occupational Controls

Dust Suppression: Use local exhaust ventilation or wet methods where possible to stop airborne dust.

Personal Protection: Wear approved respiratory protection and specialised PPE.

Hygiene: Prevent dust transfer by washing and changing clothes before leaving the work area.

Hazardous substance health monitoring program supports early detection and intervention for health issues, ensures regulatory compliance, reduces liability, and contributes to a safer, healthier, and more productive work environment.

Regulatory Compliance: Implementing a health monitoring program can help you comply with local, regional, and national regulations regarding occupational health and hazardous exposure.

Early Detection and Risk Management: By regularly monitoring employee health, you can identify potential and early stages of health issues. Early detection allows for timely medical intervention, improving treatment outcomes and potentially preventing the progression of the disease.

Improved Productivity: Health monitoring programs can contribute to a healthier workforce. Healthy employees are generally more productive, experience fewer sick days, and have lower turnover rates, leading to improved overall productivity for your organisation.

Long-Term Cost Savings: Investing in employee health monitoring can result in long-term cost savings by preventing medical expenses associated with advanced health issues and by potentially avoiding financial and operational impacts of employee turnover.

Contact WHA today to discuss your workplace health monitoring requirements.
The faster, easier, better choice for your workforce medicals.

