

List sewage hazards on site

Explain dangers

Sewage contains micro-organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites. These can be particularly active in summer.

Exposure to equipment or material contaminated by sewage can cause

- gastroenteritis (stomach cramps, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting)
- hepatitis (inflammation of the liver, jaundice)
- occupational asthma (breathlessness, tight chest, wheezing)
- infection of eyes and skin.

Sewage commonly infects workers by

- hand-to-mouth contact during eating, drinking, and smoking or by wiping the face with contaminated hands
- skin contact through cuts, scratches, or penetrating wounds
- inhaling dust contaminated by living or dead micro-organisms.

Identify controls

- Wear the protective equipment and clothing provided by your employer, such as gloves, goggles, face shields, and N95 respirators.
- Wash with clean water, soap, and paper towels. Shower for heavy contamination.

- Store clean equipment and clothing separately from dirty equipment and clothing. Don't mix them up.
- Use the designated clean area for eating and smoking. Change out of contaminated clothing and wash up before eating or smoking.
- Always wash your hands well before touching your face, eating, drinking, or smoking.
- Where contamination is heavy, you must
 - 1) shower and change out of work clothes before leaving the job
 - 2) never take contaminated clothing home for washing.
- Get shots or boosters for polio, tetanus, diphtheria, and hepatitis.

Demonstrate

Inspect clean and contaminated areas on site.

Identify precautions being taken in dirty areas.