



NEXT MEETING

Topic: OSHA's Focus for 2022

Presenter: Brian Bothast, SOHS – OSHA

When: Dec. 10, 2021 12pm – 1pm

Where: Virtual

Register: <https://qc.assp.org/event/>

Update Contact Information

Contact Pete Beltran @ Beltranp1972@yahoo.com to update your e-mail address to receive the newsletter by e-mail. Don't forget to update your email under your account on assp.org.

We are always looking for input into the newsletter to better serve our members. Please send newsletter contributions to Pete

Welcome!!

If you know of someone who is interested in joining our chapter, refer them to

<https://www.assp.org/membership/apply-to-join>

or tell them about ASSP using the Refer-A-Friend email tool <https://www.assp.org/membership/member-get-a-member>.

Feel free to also bring a guest to a meeting.

In This Issue

New Members.....1	Help Wanted..... 4
What do you see.....1	
Vaccinated People.....2	
Fall Protection Misconceptions.....3	
QC Milestones.....3	



**WHAT DO
YOU SEE?**

Vaccinated People can still Transmit COVID-19, but it's Not as Common as Unvaccinated Transmission

By Shereen Hashem. Nov 05, 2021

COVID-19 vaccines continue to work, even when facing the highly infectious Delta variant especially when it comes to protecting against severe illness and even death. Fully vaccinated people are also less likely to contract the disease than unvaccinated people are. A recent study shows that when fully vaccinated people do contract the coronavirus, they can still transmit it.

Experts say these new results, which were published October 29 in The Lancet Infectious Diseases, should not deter people from getting vaccinated. Instead, they emphasize that wider vaccine coverage is needed to ensure that when people have an infection, they are well protected against severe cases. Although fully vaccinated people were less likely to contract an infection, according to the study, when they did — what's known as a breakthrough infection — they can transmit the Delta variant at a similar level as unvaccinated people. Researchers found that 25 percent of household contacts exposed to a fully vaccinated person in the household contracted an infection themselves. Of those exposed to an unvaccinated household member, 23 percent contracted an infection.

“Breakthrough infections in fully vaccinated people can efficiently transmit infection in the household setting,” wrote the study authors.

Even though the peak was similar for vaccinated and unvaccinated people, the viral load decreased faster for fully vaccinated people with a Delta infection than for unvaccinated people.

“This study confirms that COVID-19 vaccination reduces the risk of delta variant infection and also accelerates viral clearance in the context of the delta variant,” Wilders-Smith wrote.

According to an article, viral load is directly related to infectiousness. Higher viral loads are more likely to lead to transmission of COVID-19. The study results suggest that because the viral load of vaccinated people drops off more quickly, their infection may be infectious for a shorter time than for unvaccinated people. The researchers, though, didn't look specifically at how likely people were to transmit the disease during the later stages of their infection.

Fall Protection Misconceptions & Myths Working Within the OSHA System

Is 6 feet from an unprotected edge adequate clearance to meet the federal OSHA requirements for employee fall protection safety? This myth and several other common misconceptions are the subject of this article. Since its inception, OSHA has had a profound influence on the workplace, especially through the 29 CFR 1910 (general industry) and 29 CFR 1926 (construction) regulations. As with most rules promoting a change of conduct, confusion exists regarding the interpretation of these rules and questions about fall protection are among them. This confusion is evidenced by the issuance of more than 365 letters of interpretation by OSHA for fall protection alone in response to questions seeking clarification. Over the years, many managers, workers and SH&E professionals have become "self-interpreters," reaching conclusions that do not conform to either the standards or the published interpretations. Consequently, several myths have become prevalent and convenient standards of conduct despite the fact that they are erroneous, do not provide proper worker protection and are citable. Because of these myths, some may conclude that many SH&E professionals are either not aware of or do not consider the letters of interpretation or proposed rulemaking standards issued by OSHA. Both of these tools are approved by OSHA for the development of procedures and enforcement of work rules, providing the best information available for worker safety. Several myths and/or misconceptions have been promulgated to the point that they have become accepted facts, at least until an incident occurs and OSHA becomes involved. The initial question in this article is one such myth. It is a common misconception that the worker is safe and in compliance as long as a distance of 6 ft is maintained from an unprotected edge. However, no such carte blanche rule exists and never has in the OSHA regulations. To examine some of the common myths and misconceptions, this article focuses on OSHA 29 CFR 1910 Subpart D, Walking-Working Surfaces, and Subpart I, PPE; 29 CFR 1926 Subpart M, Fall Protection and Subpart X, Stairways and Ladders; and the letters of interpretation and proposed rulemaking concerning fall protection. Steel erection, residential construction, aerial lifts and other fall protection issues are not covered. Compliance issues may be different than those presented if operations are being conducted under a state plan. Another myth is the generally stated belief that a state plan is as stringent or more stringent than federal OSHA. Comparison may prove otherwise.

Letters of Interpretation & Proposed Rulemaking

Many SH&E professionals are aware of these tools and diligently use them, yet most people outside of the profession are not aware of these tools. Both are readily accessible on OSHA's website (<http://www.osha.gov>). On the right-hand side of the site, under Laws & Regulations, visitors will see links to both standards and interpretations. A search in the interpretations section using the term *fall protection* returns 369 results. This information can be sorted by relevance or title. Sorting by title works best because the date is always first in the title and this provides a chronological reference.

QC ASSP Membership Milestones

40 Yrs: Malcom Pattison

25 Yrs: Shawn Meier

20 Yrs: Chad Keegan
Kevin Luster
Stuart Malone

15 Yrs: Scott Fowler
Ingrid Scardino

10 Yrs: Bill Skinner
Travis Keeney
Ross Koehler
Paul Astheimer
Matt Edwards
Greg Rothbardt

5 Yrs: Chad Soberalski
Jason Schwartzhoff
Kaitlin Budnick
Reggie Burke
Michael Drieling
Thomas Rutherford

Congratulations and thank you for your support!!

HELP WANTED

To view the job listing please place cursor on the job title and then control + click.

[EHS Manager](#)

[Occupational Health & Safety Coordinator - RN Preferred](#)

[EH&S Manager](#)

[Director of Safety](#)

[Associate Manager Safety](#)

[EHS Manager](#)

[Safety Coordinator](#)

[Rock Island Site Safety Health Officer](#)

[Senior Manager - Environment, Health & Safety](#)

[District Safety Manager \(DSM\)](#)

[Safety Manager Hwy61](#)

[Assistant Safety Director](#)

[Safety Representative](#)

QC ASSP CHAPTER SAFETY PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS

Looking for our Safety Professional of the Year for 2022! This award recognizes a safety professional who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the safety field, while also making significant contributions to advancing the profession. Nominations are open now through **December 31, 2021**.

Please [download the SPY Fact Sheet](#) details. Applications can be emailed to Carrie Kolodji at carrie.kolodji@bitco.com.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT.....

November 2021 Meeting: NFPA 70E Best Practices, PPE and more Kam Alipour with CINTAS, the presenter can be reached at alipourk@cintas.com if you have questions or would like to learn more.



