

**News Release**  
**Department of Labor and Employment**  
**Bureau of Working Conditions**  
**27 July 2022**

**DOLE advocates a Hepatitis B-free workplace**

In May 2010, World Health Organization (WHO) declared every 28<sup>th</sup> day of July as World Hepatitis Day. As part of the country's participation in the global efforts to reduce new infections and eventually eliminate Hepatitis B, the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) issues Department Advisory No. 05, Series of 2010 (DA 05-10) or the Guidelines for the Implementation of a Workplace Policy and Program on Hepatitis B.

DA 05-10 mandates all private workplaces, including its supply chain, to develop a rights-based policy on Hepatitis B and to implement a workplace program that covers all workers regardless of employment status. It can either be separate from or integrated into the establishment's existing occupational safety and health policy and program.

The workplace policy and program shall be composed of the conduct of basic training and education on Hepatitis B; development of non-discriminatory policies and practices; creation of a referral system for appropriate medical evaluation and management; and implementation of various preventive strategies which may include the conduct of Hepatitis B immunization, and handing out Personal Protective Equipment for workers in high-risk occupations.

DOLE through its Regional Offices, in collaboration with other concerned government agencies and local government units, shall oversee and lead the implementation of Hepatitis B Workplace Policy and Program for private establishments. Similarly, the implemented workplace policy and program shall be regularly monitored and evaluated by the establishment's safety and health committee or its counterpart.

As of June 2022, a total of 47,434<sup>1</sup> establishments were inspected by DOLE and found 1,733 non-compliant establishments.

Hepatitis B is a vaccine-preventable liver infection caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV) and is usually transmitted through blood and body fluids<sup>2</sup>. While most jobs do not present a greater chance of transmission, some occupations pose a higher risk.

A sample format of workplace policy and program on Hepatitis B can be found in the DOLE-Bureau of Working Conditions website at <https://bit.ly/3PU7ouf>, while other information on DA 05-10 can be found on the DOLE website at <https://bit.ly/3b9A9UP>.

**/AJRB/**

---

<sup>1</sup> Reports were generated by the DOLE-BWC's MIS Monitoring Team

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hbv/index.htm>