

RYAN WHITE NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS UPDATED

The US Center for Disease Control (CDC) recently published updates to the Federal Register with regard to the Ryan White statute which covers notification procedures for medical facilities regarding exposure of emergency response employees (EREs) to potentially life-threatening infectious diseases.

SEC. 2695A requires a medical facility to notify the Designated Officer of the ERE's who transported the patient with an airborne and/or bloodborne infectious disease "as soon as is practicable, but not later than 48 hours after the determination is made." The law also permits the Designated Officer to follow-up with medical facilities when an ERE is concerned about a potential exposure and requires the medical facility to provide written notification about the exposure.

The final notice of potentially life-threatening infectious diseases, including emerging infectious diseases, to which EREs may be exposed in responding to emergencies (including a specification of those infectious diseases that are routinely transmitted through airborne or aerosolized means); guidelines describing circumstances in which employees may be exposed to these diseases; and guidelines describing the manner in which medical facilities should make determinations about exposures which became effective December 2, 2011.

See also <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ryanwhite/> for more information regarding notification procedures.