



# OCCUPATIONAL SKIN MANAGEMENT COURSE

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## A PRACTICAL APPROACH TO OCCUPATIONAL SKIN MANAGEMENT

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A one-day course to provide you with what you need to know to set up and operate a skin management system that will minimise any risk of damage to health due to workplace skin exposure.

### WHAT DOES THIS COURSE COVER?

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-  Essential information on how our skin interacts with the working environment and the potential consequences (contact dermatitis, urticaria, systemic toxic and respiratory effects from skin exposure)
-  Why we cannot consider inhalation, ingestion and skin exposure as separate topics
-  Essential facts about chemical hazards and how to identify what is really present in the workplace (not what is on the safety data sheet)ERASE - a unique approach to skin exposure risk assessment
-  Techniques for managing skin exposure, including what is needed to ensure personal protective equipment, such as gloves, coveralls, etc., is really working for you
-  What is involved in an effective skin care system
-  The why, when and how of skin health surveillance
-  How to investigate and manage a suspected occupational skin problem
-  How to establish what changes you need to make to create an effective skin management system in your workplace - without unnecessary cost

### WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

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This course is intended for anyone interested in ensuring that their own workplace does not put persons' health at risk due to workplace skin exposure. This includes:

 Health and safety practitioners

 Occupational hygienists

 Occupational health practitioners

 HR personnel

 Factory managers, etc.

## WHAT ARE ITS AIMS?

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This course will provide participants with practical tools and the associated knowledge to be able to make a real difference in standards of skin management in the workplace that they are responsible for.

## HOW DO WE ACHIEVE THIS?

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The course leader, Chris Packham, combines a technical background, gained in many different industries and environments, with an in-depth knowledge of how the skin interacts with the (working) environment. This enables him to take a unique approach, developed from over 30 years involvement in skin and the working environment. EnviroDerm Services is a small, highly experienced team concerned specifically with this aspect of health and safety. Chris has been described by a leading European dermatologist as :

*"...the international expert in the field of risk assessment in occupational settings related to skin hazards."*

*"Chris and his daughter, Helen, are THE experts on skin protection in the workplace"* - Anne Harriss, Reader in Educational Development and Course Director, London South Bank University.

As EnviroDerm Services are independent of all manufacturers and suppliers of skin care products, gloves, etc., you can be confident of an objective and realistic approach to what is a more complex topic than many realise, based on the latest knowledge about our skin and its interaction with our environment and how this can be managed.

*"I enjoyed it all, it was all fantastic..."* - Claudette Nicholls, SPS Aerostructures"










*"A very informative course, well structured, full of relevant stories applicable to a wide variety of working environments..."* - George Elliott, 3M

## COURSE CONTENT

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This course will address the following topics:

 The problem - to set the scene the course will look at data on the prevalence, incidence and cost of occupational skin disease


-  Legal and regulatory aspects - what the law requires regarding workplace skin exposure and how might you comply with this
-  About our skin - 1: Our skin as an organ, how it is structured, what it does for us and how it does it
-  About our skin - 2: The damage to health that can result from workplace skin exposure (including systemic toxic effects), links with and effects on the skin of inhalation and ingestion - other factors that can affect the skin and cause skin problems - the consequences for employee and employer
-  Risk assessment - A structured approach including factors such as - identifying the real hazard when chemicals are used (frequently not what is on the safety data sheet) - assessing skin exposure (extent, frequency, duration) - determining the significance and the action required. This section will include a number of real life examples. It will also include information on ERASE, a novel approach to risk assessment for workplace skin exposure that can be used by the non-expert.
-  Risk management - How do we manage skin exposure in the workplace? This section will examine the hierarchy of exposure management techniques, including aspects such as 'prevention through design', technical/engineering methods to eliminate exposure (including the relevance of LEV for skin exposure), the selection and correct use of personal protective equipment (especially gloves for chemical protection), job rotation, etc.
-  The role of skin care - the role of skin care, selection of skin care products, design of washing facilities, and including the issue of prevention of infection (if appropriate)
-  Skin health surveillance - why, when and how a pro-active approach using modern scientific techniques can assist in ensuring adequate skin exposure control.
-  Investigating and managing a suspected skin problem in the workplace - techniques required for an effective investigation of a suspected occupational skin problem - scientific and medical techniques available - and the creation of a system to manage skin problems within the workplace.
-  Developing an occupational skin management system - a structured approach to the development and implementation of an occupational skin management system.

## LEARNING OUTCOMES


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-  An overview of the complexity of the interaction between the skin and the environment and its importance for the prevention of damage to health due to workplace skin exposure
-  Awareness of the myths and misinformation that exist about skin and how to avoid the pitfalls that await the uninformed
-  Knowledge of the special factors that affect risk assessment for workplace skin exposure and a structured approach to this and skin exposure management
-  An understanding of the processes required in the selection and use of personal protective equipment (particularly gloves) for effective

 control of skin exposure to chemical hazards

 The role of skin health surveillance and the benefits of a pro-active approach.

 How to investigate and manage a suspected occupational skin problem

 What is involved in developing and operating an effective skin management system

 When to seek specialist advice and guidance and where to find this

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