



# **HEALTH SYSTEM OPERATION**

**HEALTH AND  
SAFETY**

# Introduction

- In this session we are going to discuss briefly about the following points;
- ❖ patient safety
- ❖ OHS
- ❖ common work place hazards.
- ❖ safety and health committee.
- ❖ Ethiopian OHS standards and policy.

# Objective

After successful accomplishment of discussion the STUDENTS should be able to define/know;

- patient safety.
- occupational health and safety standards.
- common work place hazards.
- safety and health committee function.
- Ethiopian occupational health, safety policy and health standards.

## key points

- ❖ **Safety** refers to the physical or environmental conditions to perform any thing without or within acceptable exposure limit to hazards.
- ❖ **Health** -is a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being

# PATIENT SAFETY

❖ patient safety refers to the efforts of clinical providers to reduce or avoid preventable harm to the patient during treatment.

❖ It also the need for strategies to keep patient health risks as low as possible.



# Below are some of the patient safety situations causing most concern:-

- ✓ Medication errors
- ✓ Unsafe surgical care procedures
- ✓ Unsafe injections practices
- ✓ Diagnostic errors
- ✓ Unsafe transfusion practices
- ✓ Radiation errors
- ✓ Disorganized health system



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- To ensure successful implementation of patient safety strategies; clear policies, leadership capacity, skilled health care professionals and effective involvement of patients in their care, are all needed.
  - In addition, to realize patient safety in health care, health services must be timely, equitable, integrated and efficient.

# OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

occupational health and safety can be defined as a multidisciplinary activity aiming at:

- ❖ Protection and promotion of the health of workers by eliminating occupational factors and conditions hazardous to health and safety at work

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- ❖ Enhancement of physical, mental and social well-being of workers and support for the development and maintenance of their working capacity.
  - ❖ Globally around 3.3 million workers die every year from occupational accidents

# **Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) focuses primarily on ;**

- protecting employees in the workplace from accidents, injuries, and exposure to harmful substances.
- Improved productivity due to fewer employees missing work from illness.
- improved employee relations and morale (less stressful work environment)
- Reduced costs associated with accidents or injuries

# standard of OHS

❖ **OHS Standards are mandatory standards set and enforced to eliminate or reduce occupational safety and health hazards in the workplace.**

- Appropriate seats, lighting and ventilation;
- Use Equipment Properly
- Report Safety Concerns
- Adequate passageways, exits and fire fighting equipment;
- Separate facilities for men and women;
- Maintain a clean and organized workplace environment

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- Appropriate safety devices like protective gears, masks, helmets, safety boots, coats or first-aid kits;
  - Reduce Workplace Stress
  - Medicines, medical supplies or first-aid kits;
  - Free medical and dental services and facilities.

# Safety and health committees

- ❖ Safety and Health Committee is a group of employees or workers and management that plans and makes policies in all matters pertaining to safety and health in the workplace.



# FUNCTION S&HC

❖ Safety and Health Committee shall:

- Plan and develop accident prevention programs in the workplace
- Inspect workplace to detect unsafe conditions.
- Review reports of inspection, results of accident investigations and implementation of accident prevention program;

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- Conduct safety meetings at least once a month
  - Submit reports to the manager on its meetings and activities.
  - Train workers in safe work habits and procedures.

# Common work place hazards

- ❖ A workplace hazard refers to a situation within the workplace that has the potential to cause injury or adverse health effects for people and damage to the plant and/or equipment
- ❖ The nature of exposures of workers to workplace hazards depends on the type of work



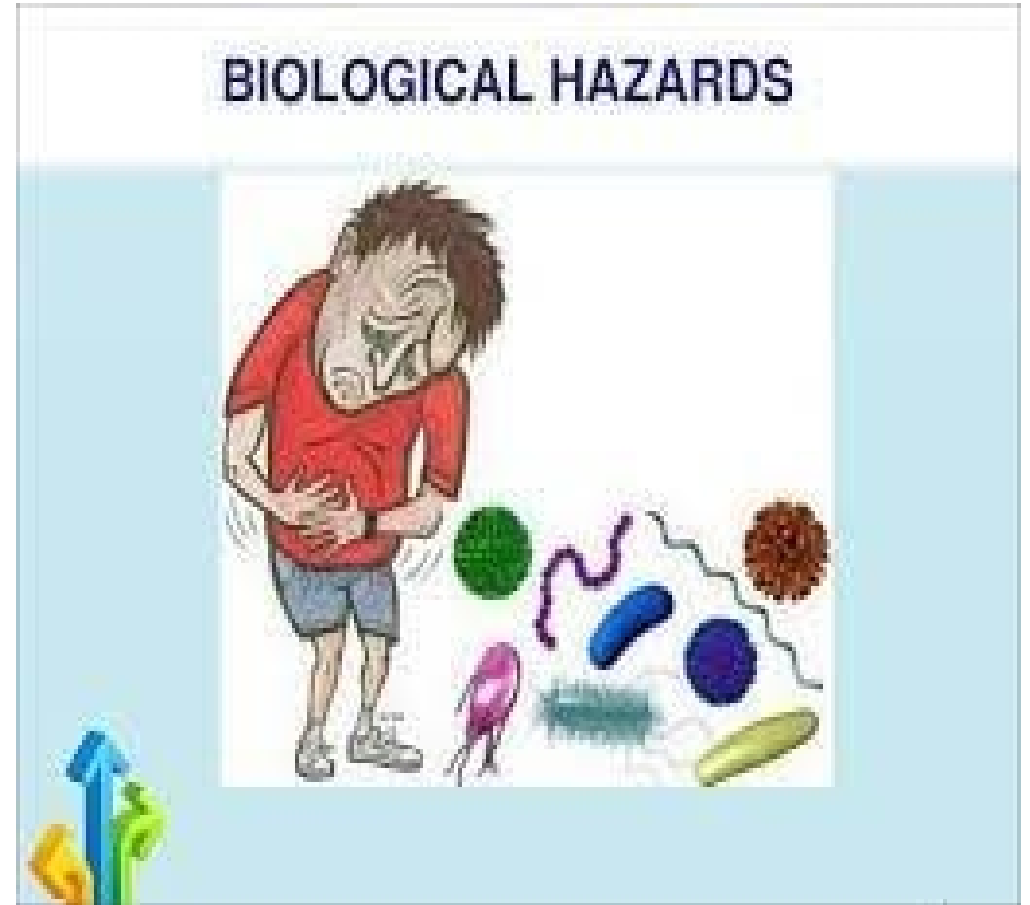
# Physical hazards

- Physical hazards are environmental factors that can lead to injuries.
- These include falling objects, and other conditions that can cause slips, falls, cuts, or other injuries excessive noise levels, heat, and pressure.



# Biological hazards

- Biological hazards can lead to diseases, infections, and other serious health conditions.
- Mold and fungi, blood and other bodily fluids, bacteria, viruses...



# Ergonomic hazards

- **Ergonomic hazards** put strain on muscles, tendons, and other connective tissues of the body.
- They can result from bad posture, not using dollies or other mechanical assistance, and repetitive or awkward lifting/movement.



# Chemical Hazards

- work conditions, including ionizing radiation, chemicals, fire, flammable substances, noxious components



# Psychological hazards

- This type of hazard includes work-related stress, fatigue, harassment, and violence. These in turn, lead to morale issues, reduced productivity of work

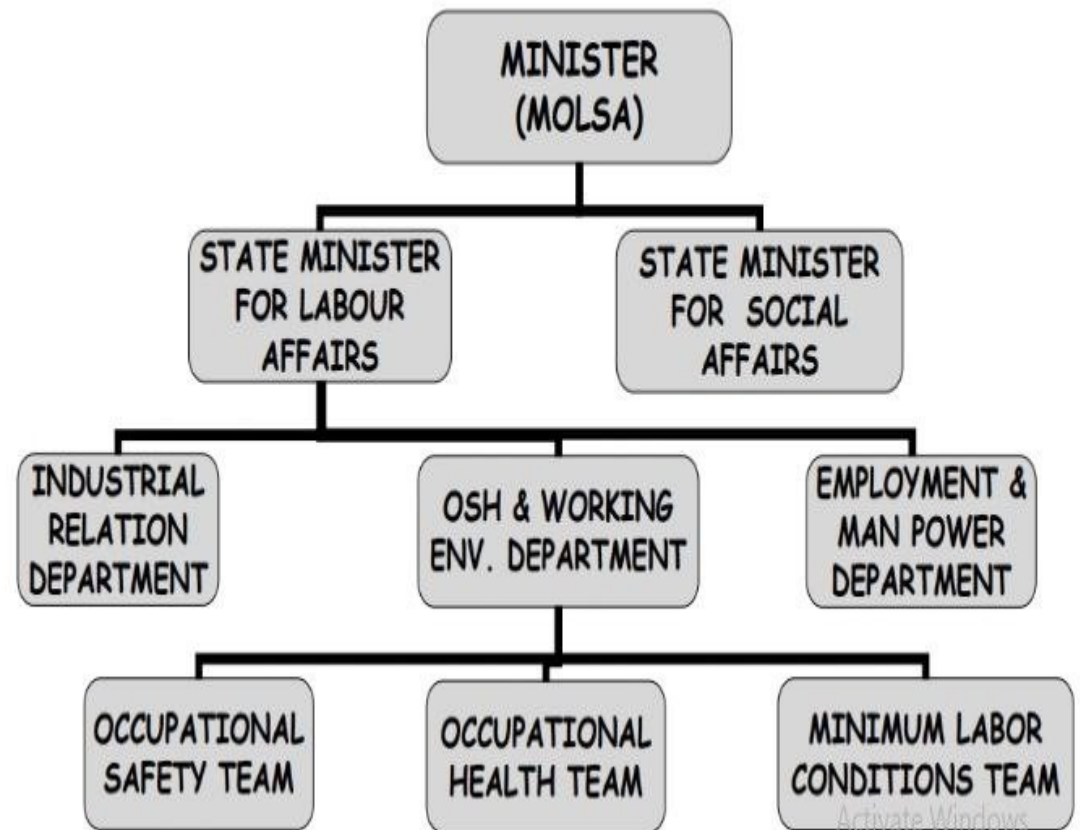


# OHS standards in Ethiopia

- ❖ Ethiopia has had a regulation on Occupational Safety and Health (OHS) since the 1940's
- ❖ national level policy on Occupational Safety and Health (OHS) has recently been developed and approved (July 2014) by the Central government.
- ❖ Ethiopia has committed herself to exercising ILO Conventions. Twenty conventions are ratified. Occupational safety and health: convention 155/1981 is one of among these.

- ❖ The Ethiopian Labor proclamation has established the provisions of OHS in work places. The proclamation clearly indicates the duties and responsibilities of the three parties:
  - employer,
  - employee
  - the government inspectors as stakeholders .
- ❖ The Ethiopian Labor Proclamation has a provision requires the employer to have an obligation to safeguard workers from accidents and injuries.
- ❖ It further requires that Safety Committees be established in each factory.

- The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) is the state organ that regulates workers' safety and health in work places, both private and state owned. MOLSA and its regional networks have an organizational structure lined to the periphery.



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# DRAW BACKS OF OHS POLICIES in Ethiopia

- ❖ lack of local policy statements at the enterprise level and the existence of inadequate awareness of the existing regulatory provisions are challenges that still require immediate attention to reflect the National level of OSH Policy.
- ❖ Information on occupation-related diseases and injury or accident is not systematically recorded, evaluated, or monitored in the Ethiopian work setting.
- ❖ Published information on the status of OSH at the national level is very limited.



**safety isn't expensive. it's priceless**

*- unknown*

**Thank you!**



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