

**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency**

**Office of Safety**

**Safety Standard Operating Procedure Number: SP 11-4**

**Date: February 9, 2015**

**STATUS: FINAL**

**Title: Beryllium Medical Screening Program**

**Purpose:**

The purpose of this Safety Standard Operating Procedure (SSOP) is to outline the requirements of the Beryllium Medical Screening Program for employees who perform work in areas where there is the potential for exposure to raw beryllium.

**Scope:**

The Beryllium Medical Screening Program applies to the following employees:

1. All employees who perform any work inside any of the buildings at Materion Brush in Elmore, Ohio. It does not apply to employees who only work outside at the facility.
2. Employees performing work at other facilities that handle raw beryllium if it is determined that the employee is at an increased risk for beryllium exposure based on the work they are performing. These situations will be handled on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the Agency Safety Manager.
3. Employees actively involved in long-term clean-up operations at sites where raw beryllium is a known contaminant of concern and the work being performed puts the employee at an increased risk for exposure to waste beryllium. These cases will also be handled on a case-by-case basis, in consultation with the Agency Safety Manager
4. This program does not apply to facilities where beryllium alloys, or products containing beryllium, are used.

**Definitions:**

1. **Beryllium Medical Screening Program** – A program for employees who are performing work activities that fall under the scope of this Standard Safety Operating Procedure and have been identified through the Safety Management System (SMS) Assessment Worksheets as having an increased risk for exposure to beryllium. These employees will be offered the Beryllium Lymphocyte Proliferation Test (BeLPT) test at three year

intervals as long as the employee continues working in areas where beryllium exposure is a concern.

2. **Beryllium Facilities** – Active facilities that use or handle raw beryllium. This does not include facilities where beryllium containing products or beryllium alloy is used or handled.
3. **Beryllium Sites** – Inactive sites that are known to have handled raw beryllium in the past and are undergoing a clean-up action where beryllium has been identified as a contaminant of concern.
4. **Beryllium Lymphocyte Proliferation Test (BeLPT)** – A highly specialized blood test to identify individuals who are “sensitized” to beryllium. This test is not given as a baseline test, but rather after a period of time when the individual could have been exposed to beryllium. The initial test is normally provided approximately one year after assignment to a facility or site where there is the potential for exposure to beryllium.

#### **Requirements:**

1. Supervisors will identify employees who are assigned work at locations that fall under the scope of this SSOP. This information should be on the employee’s Safety Management System (SMS) Assessment Worksheet.
2. Due to the high cost of the BeLPT blood test, all efforts should be made to limit the number of employee’s assigned work that falls under the scope of this SSOP.
3. District Administrators are required to maintain a list of employees that are currently performing work under this program. This list should be provided to the Agency Safety Manager on an annual basis, or otherwise when requested. This list will be used to cross-reference the Safety Management System (SMS) to ensure that all employees under this program are properly identified.
4. All employees that perform any work at Materion Brush in Elmore, Ohio, must attend the Beryllium training offered by Materion Brush prior to performing any work in any area at this facility.
5. All employees that are identified under this program are required to be enrolled in the Agency’s Respiratory Protection Program and meet the requirements of that program. Employees are required to be enrolled in the Agency’s Occupational Medical Screening program under the “respirator user” worker category.
6. The Agency Safety Manager will make arrangements for the BeLPT blood test as part of an employee’s occupational medical screening and respirator clearance.

7. Supervisors are required to submit a revised SMS Assessment Worksheet to the Safety Manager whenever an employee's duties change and they no longer are performing work under the scope of this SSOP.
8. The BeLPT screening will cease once the employee is no longer working inside a beryllium facility or site. They will be offered the testing at the next designated testing cycle following the cessation of their beryllium duties.

### **Medical Case Management**

1. If the BeLPT test results indicate "sensitivity" to beryllium, the employee's duties will be modified and they will no longer be permitted to work in areas where there is a risk of beryllium exposure.
2. The employee will also be referred to an occupational medicine physician for follow-up and medical case management as appropriate. All subsequent medical follow-up will be provided under the Worker's Compensation program.
3. The employee will be required to complete an ADM 4303, Injury/Illness Report, and submit it to the Agency Safety Manager. The date of injury will be the date that the results of the BeLPT were received indicating the sensitization.