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## **HCHSA - Protecting Health Care Workers from Infectious Diseases: A Self-Assessment Tool**



### **PREFACE**

The Health Care Health and Safety Association of Ontario (HCHSA) is a not-for-profit organization, designated as a Safe Workplace Association under the Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (S.O. 1997). Our vision is to inspire, guide and support our clients to achieve the healthiest and safest workplaces.

HCHSA recognizes that health care organizations face increased challenges post-SARS to ensure they have adequate programs in place to protect the health and safety of their staff. As a result, this self-assessment tool was developed to assist employers, workers, health care professionals, and members of the joint health and safety and infection control committees identify strengths and opportunities for enhancing their Occupational Health Infection Control Program.

This self-assessment tool should assist health care organizations address the legislated requirements under the Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act and establish best practices in occupational health and safety as recommended in the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care's April 2004 report on SARS and infectious disease control, For the Public's Health: A Plan of Action.

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## **Section 10.8**

Air is discharged outside the building and away from intake ducts, or through a high-efficiency (HEPA) filter if re-circulated.

### **Suggestions for Implementation**

Ultra-violet germicidal irradiation (UVGI) can be used in addition to HEPA filters but not in place of them.