Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Southern California Permanente Medical Group
Establishment DBA: Kaiser Permanente - Bellflower Medical Offices and its successors
Inspection Site: 9400 Rosecrans Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: Regulatory

California Code of Regulations, Title 8 342. Reporting Work-Connected Fatalities and Serious Injuries
(a) Every employer shall report immediately by telephone or telegraph to the nearest District Office of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health any serious injury or illness, or death, of an employee occurring in a place of employment or in connection with any employment.

Immediately means as soon as practically possible but not longer than 8 hours after the employer knows or with diligent inquiry would have known of the death or serious injury or illness. If the employer can demonstrate that exigent circumstances exist, the time frame for the report may be made no longer than 24 hours after the incident.

Serious injury or illness is defined in section 330(h), Title 8, California Administrative Code.

Prior to and during the course of the investigation, including but limited to, on October 22, 2020, the employer failed to report immediately to the Division of Occupational Safety and Health the January 30, 2021 death of an employee occurring in, or in connection with any employment at, the Kaiser Permanente Bellflower Medical Office Building.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated: Corrected During Inspection
Proposed Penalty: $5000.00
Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Southern California Permanente Medical Group
Establishment DBA: Kaiser Permanente - Bellflower Medical Offices and its successors
Inspection Site: 9400 Rosecrans Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706

Citation 1 Item 2 Type of Violation: General

California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5199. Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Exposure Control Plan.

(d) Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Exposure Control Plan.

(1) The employer shall establish, implement, and maintain an effective, written ATD Exposure Control Plan (Plan) which is specific to the work place or operation(s), and which contains all of the elements in subsection (d)(2).

(2) The Plan shall contain all of the following elements:

(E) The methods of implementation of subsections (e), (g), (h), (i) and (j) as they apply to that facility, service or work operation. Specific control measures shall be listed for each operation or work area in which occupational exposure occurs. These measures shall include applicable engineering and work practice controls, cleaning and decontamination procedures, and personal protective equipment and respiratory protection. In establishments where the Plan pertains to laboratory operations, it also shall contain the methods of implementation for subsection (f), unless those operations are included in a Biosafety Plan.

Prior to and during the course of the investigation, including, but not limited to, on October 22, 2020, the employer failed to establish, implement and maintain an effective, written ATD Exposure Control Plan in that:

Instance 1 [5199(d)(1)]

The employer’s written ATD Exposure Control Plan (Plan) was not specific to the work place or operation(s) at the Bellflower Medical Offices site.
Instance 2 [§1999(d)(2)(E)]

The employer’s written ATD Exposure Control Plan did not list specific control measures for each operation or work area in which employees had occupational exposure to SARS CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. The written ATD Exposure Control Plan did not include SARS CoV-2 exposure control measures relating to applicable engineering and work practice controls, cleaning and decontamination procedures, personal protective equipment and respiratory protection for the Bellflower Medical Offices.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated: July 02, 2021
Proposed Penalty: $530.00
Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Southern California Permanente Medical Group
Establishment DBA: Kaiser Permanente - Bellflower Medical Offices
and its successors
Inspection Site: 9400 Rosecrans Ave.,
Bellflower, CA 90706

Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: Serious

California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5199. Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Exposure Control Plan.

(e) Engineering and Work Practice Controls, and Personal Protective Equipment.

(1): Employers shall use feasible engineering and work practice controls to minimize employee exposures to ATPs. Where engineering and work practice controls do not provide sufficient protection (e.g., when an employee enters an AIi room or area) the employer shall provide, and ensure that employees use, personal protective equipment, and shall provide respiratory protection in accordance with subsection (g) to control exposures to AirIPs.

Prior to and during the course of the investigation, including but not limited to, on October 22, 2020, the employer failed to use feasible engineering and work practice controls to minimize employee exposure to SARS CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Specifically, among other mitigation strategies, the employer failed to install physical barriers between lunch tables in the breakroom, and failed to enforce physical distancing guidelines in the breakroom per employer’s Mitigation Strategies.

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated: June 09, 2021
Proposed Penalty: $11475.00
Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Southern California Permanente Medical Group  
Establishment DBA: Kaiser Permanente - Bellflower Medical Offices and its successors  
Inspection Site: 9400 Rosecrans Ave., Bellflower, CA 90706

Citation 3 Item 1 Type of Violation: Serious

California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5199. Aerosol Transmissible Diseases Exposure Control Plan.

(h): Medical services:

(6) Exposure Incidents.

(C): Each employer who becomes aware that his or her employees may have been exposed to an RATD case or suspected case, or to an exposure incident involving an ATP-L shall do all of the following:

1. Within a timeframe that is reasonable for the specific disease, as described in subsection (h)(6)(B), but in no case later than 72 hours following, as applicable, the employer's report to the local health officer or the receipt of notification from another employer or the local health officer, conduct an analysis of the exposure scenario to determine which employees had significant exposures. This analysis shall be conducted by an individual knowledgeable in the mechanisms of exposure to ATPs or ATPs-L, and shall record the names and any other employee identifier used in the workplace of persons who were included in the analysis. The analysis shall also record the basis for any determination that an employee need not be included in post-exposure follow-up because the employee did not have a significant exposure or because a PLHCP determined that the employee is immune to the infection in accordance with applicable public health guidelines. The exposure analysis shall be made available to the local health officer upon request. The name of the person making the determination, and the identity of any PLHCP or local health officer consulted in making the determination shall be recorded.

2. Within a timeframe that is reasonable for the specific disease, as described in subsection (h)(6)(B), but in no case later than 96 hours of becoming aware of the potential exposure, notify employees who had significant exposures of the date, time, and nature of the exposure.
3. As soon as feasible, provide post-exposure medical evaluation to all employees who had a significant exposure. The evaluation shall be conducted by a PLHCP knowledgeable about the specific disease, including appropriate vaccination, prophylaxis and treatment. For M. tuberculosis, and for other pathogens where recommended by applicable public health guidelines, this shall include testing of the isolate from the source individual or material for drug susceptibility, unless the PLHCP determines that it is not feasible.

4. Obtain from the PLHCP a recommendation regarding precautionary removal in accordance with subsection (h)(8), and a written opinion in accordance with subsection (h)(9).

5. Determine, to the extent that the information is available in the employer’s records, whether employees of any other employers may have been exposed to the case or material. The employer shall notify these other employers within a time frame that is reasonable for the specific disease, as described in subsection (h)(6)(B), but in no case later than 72 hours of becoming aware of the exposure incident of the nature, date, and time of the exposure, and shall provide the contact information for the diagnosing PLHCP. The notifying employer shall not provide the identity of the source patient to other employers.

Prior to and during the course of inspection including, but not limited to, on July 22, 2020, through on or about February 1, 2021, the Employer failed to investigate exposure incident with employees who were confirmed with COVID-19 cases, in the following instances:

Instance 1
The employer failed to conduct an exposure analysis to determine whether any employees had significant exposure to the confirmed COVID-19 employees. [§1999(h)(6)(C)(1).]

Instance 2
The employer did not provide post-exposure medical evaluation as soon as feasible to all employees who had a significant exposure to the confirmed COVID-19 employees. [§1999(h)(6)(C)(3).]

Instance 3
The employer did not obtain from the PLHCP a recommendation regarding precautionary removal of the confirmed COVID-19 employees and employees who had a significant exposure to those same confirmed COVID-19 employees in accordance with subsection (h)(8), or a written opinion in accordance with subsection (h)(9). [§1999(h)(6)(C)(4).]

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated: June 09, 2021
Proposed Penalty: $11475.00

Ed Dyer                  Hien Le
Compliance Officer / District Manager