

OSHA estimates that about 295,000 workers are exposed to respirable crystalline silica in over 75,000 General Industry and Maritime workplaces. Of these, more than 30% of them are exposed to levels that exceed the new Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL). Exposure can have serious adverse health effects such as silicosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), renal failure and lung cancer.

Deadlines for medical surveillance will depend on whether workers are exposed for 30 or more days at or above the Action Level or permissible exposure limits. Deadlines are June 23, 2020 and June 23, 2018 respectively. For Hydraulic Fracturing operations in the Oil and Gas Industry, employers must implement engineering controls to limit exposures to the new PEL by June 23, 2021.

## The standard (Respirable Crystalline Silica for General Industry 29 CFR 1910.1053) includes provisions for:

- Measuring the amount of worker exposure to silica
- Limiting employee access to high exposure areas
- The implementation of controls to limit exposure
- Providing medical exams for workers with high silica exposure
- Training workers on hazards and methods of control







## What We Offer:

- ✓ Industrial Hygiene/Air Monitoring
- ✓ Program Development
- Training
- ✓ Medical Surveillance
  - Silica Clearance (Physical, History & PFT)
  - PPD
  - Chest X-Ray (read by a B-Reader)
  - Fit Testing



