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Alcohol and Other Drug Use among Victims of Motor-Vehicle Crashes --- West Virginia, 2004—2005

Blood and urine samples were taken from >80% of those who died soon after involvement in an RTA. Drugs administered as a result of the accident were not included in the analysis.

Of fatalities alcohol was detected in 32.5% and was above the legal limit in 27.7% of cases. Drugs [of all origins] which could impair the road user were detected in 25.8% of decedents. 11.1% had both alcohol and drugs in their bodies prior to death.

The effect of drugs on road use performance is not known quantitatively and there are no "legal limits" established. Residual traces of drugs can be detected at levels where no effect on performance would be expected.

New users, occasional users, and persons who have increased their doses of drugs generally are more impaired than persons who have become tolerant of drugs through steady use, such as persons taking drugs daily as prescribed. Both combining alcohol with drugs and use of multiple drugs increase the risk for crashes.

DWP Com 7003
Completion of the review of the scheduled list of prescribed diseases

Most of the findings of the review have previously been presented and accepted by the Secretary of State or reported as position papers.

The payment of lump sum compensation to asbestos lung cancer and mesothelioma IIDB beneficiaries is still under consideration.

Most of the findings of the review have been to support the existing scheme or to recommend relatively minor changes. Miner's Nystagmus was deleted from the list of prescribed diseases.

The case load for 2005 is reported to have been as follows:

Appendix

Claims, assessments and number receiving benefit payments for the fifteen most claimed prescribed diseases in 2005

Disease	PD	New Claims	New Assessments	Number of new assessments receiving benefit payments*	Caseload as of March 2005
Pneumoconiosis	D1	5300	1585	745	12,300
Vibration white finger (Hand-arm vibration syndrome)	A11	3865	815	25	8,160
Pleural thickening	D9	2235	415	365	3,080
Occupational deafness	A10	2065	255	230	11,880
Carpal tunnel syndrome	A12	1820	640	150	1,980
Mesothelioma	D3	1550	1535	1535	1,010
Chronic bronchitis and emphysema	D12	1380	190	180	9,190
Traumatic inflammation of the tendons of the hand or forearm	A8	590	220	125	2,460
Occupational asthma	D7	500	230	180	4,420
Lung cancer due to asbestos	D8	390	80	55	190
Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis of the knee (Beat knee)	A6	310	50	5	240
Cramp of the hand or forearm	A4	255	45	10	320
Non-infective dermatitis	D5	225	160	30	1,490
Allergic rhinitis	D4	185	85	5	690
Bursitis or subcutaneous cellulitis of the elbow (Beat elbow)	A7	100	5	0	50

'These figures show the number of people receiving greater than 14% assessments (or greater than 1% for PDD1, or greater than 20% for PDA10) for prescribed disease. It does not take into account those whose assessments for prescribed disease in aggregate, but not singularly, result in benefit payments.
'Claims' in reference to the IIDB Scheme refers to those individuals who make a claim for IIDB benefit.
'Assessments' refers to the claimants who undergo a medical assessment of disability for IIDB benefit.
Numbers are based on a 100% sample, with the exception of caseload data which is based on a 10% sample, and have been rounded to protect claimant anonymity.
NB. There were also 460 unspecified claims in 2005 where claims were submitted for diseases which are not prescribed.

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Consultation on proposals to implement an EC Directive on the safety of Cosmetic Products

Technical products (which includes cosmetics) made in the EU may not include animal by products assigned as category 1 or category 2. Low risk category 3 material may be used. The consultation is on the extension of these rules to the import of technical products made outside the EU. The exception for tallow is to be removed; it may not be used after the regulation comes into force, probably May 2007.