
This book is aimed at two groups of people: the postgraduate student studying for one of the examinations in occupational medicine and to those already qualified it will act as a refresher.

The book is helpfully divided into sections which comprehensively cover the diverse topics within *Occupational Medicine*. The questions and answers are conveniently displayed back-to-back making it easy to use. However some questions ask ‘which of the following is not associated with . . .’ suggesting only one of the answers is incorrect when in fact more than one are wrong. There are further minor errors such as abbreviations with explanations incorrectly aligned with the relevant questions.

Unambiguous multiple choice questions are notoriously difficult to write. This book provides some examples of ambiguous and contentious answers.

The book, if it is to remain topical, will need frequent revision—particularly the section on legislation.

Despite the minor problems the book will prove very useful as a tool for revision for the examination candidate and for those already qualified.

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A challenging phenomenon witnessed around the world in recent years has been the interest in establishing a legal framework to protect the public from unreasonable risks of injury associated with consumer products brought to the marketplace. This interest has been as intense as it has been universal. Moreover, it was concluded that protecting the health and safety of the consumer, both at the marketplace and the work environment, made good economic sense and brought many social benefits. The result has been the development of an enormous number of national, regional, and international health and safety regulations and standards covering a multitude of products that are complex, mostly non-compatible and difficult to track, let alone implement. The problem was further magnified by the policies and activities of the many already existing and the newly-created or regenerated standard-setting organizations, the conclusion of several regional and international agreements, and the adoption of several measures and regulations.

Under these conditions a company would appear to have a difficult, if not an impossible, time complying with all the legal requirements relevant to its operations. Yet, comply it must if it expects to maintain its economic viability; but in addition, the company must continually strive to keep abreast of all developments in health and safety regulations that apply to its product line and the environment of its workers and incorporate them into its operations.

Kenneth S. Kilimnik’s *Health and Safety Regulations: International and National Laws* alleviates this predicament. It brings together in one volume and in sufficient detail information on and analysis of all major and many of the less publicized health and safety regulations. These have burst into the international arena in recent years as a result of the work of non-treaty and intergovernmental standard-setting organizations, bilateral and multilateral agreements, and relevant national policies and measures. The book is truly a superb compendium for such information and would make a welcomed addition to the libraries of major law firms, corporations, standards and trade associations, universities, government agencies, and professional investigators concerned with health and safety issues and legislation.

The material included in the book is well balanced, more detailed where it should be and less so where it should not. It is presented in ten separate chapters in a clear, easy-to-read language. The text, quite wisely, begins with a chapter on definitions of the multifarious terms used in the book; terms such as standard, regulation, risk and conformity assessment, accreditor, notified body, registration and certification. These are adequately clarified thereby avoiding mis-interpretation.

There follow two profoundly relevant chapters: the first one discusses the relationship between technology and trade liberalization, restrictive trade practices, benefits and potentially adverse effects of harmonization, and of internationally compatible standards.

The chapter on economic factors discusses a host of particularly useful economic issues and concepts which are analyzed at length and in coherent terms. A few of the issues are: the relationship between standards and economics; the optimum application of standards