

NSW Coal Industry Cardiovascular Health Standard



Monitoring cardiovascular health

Cardiovascular disease is one of the main causes of death and disability in Australia.

Cardiovascular conditions can lead to serious cardiac events such as heart attacks or cardiac arrest. These can also cause other health and safety issues at work, affecting not only the coal mine worker but also others around them.

Coal mine workers may have underlying health issues such as obesity, high blood pressure and high cholesterol that increase their risk of cardiovascular disease, even before symptoms appear.

For this reason, it is essential to regularly assess and monitor cardiovascular health.

Purpose of the Cardiovascular Health Standard

The Cardiovascular Health Standard is designed to:

- assess and monitor coal mine workers' cardiovascular health
- identify and support coal mine workers with, or at risk of, a cardiovascular condition
- support the coal mine worker's safe return to work following a cardiac event or intervention.

Benefits for workers

In addition to health benefits, early identification and management of cardiovascular issues helps to ensure coal mine workers can safely perform their duties without putting themselves or others at risk.

Coal mine workers with cardiovascular conditions or increased cardiovascular risk

The Cardiovascular Health Standard outlines how coal mine workers with identified cardiovascular conditions or increased cardiovascular risk should be managed, and specifies when they should be referred to their GP or a cardiologist for further investigation and treatment.

Following the GP and/or cardiologist assessment, the approved medical practitioner will determine if the coal mine worker can continue working based on the information from these assessments.

The health standard also specifies follow up requirements, including when a coal mine worker may need to have an early review to monitor their condition or cardiovascular risk.

For more information please visit
www.coalservices.com.au/health