

## Occupational Health Assessments – a new benefit for 2018

Your employer has a duty of care to look after your occupational health, to minimise any risk of you becoming ill or injured while you're at work.

To support employers and operatives with addressing any work-related health issues, the JIB has introduced a new feature within the JIB Benefits Scheme that will come into effect next year.

From 01 January 2018, operatives who work for a JIB member company and participate in the JIB Benefits Scheme are entitled to a free Occupational Health Assessment.

You can receive one funded Occupational Health Assessment every three years, via one of our JIB-approved providers.

The purpose of the assessment is to look for any effects to your health that might be caused by what you're exposed to at work, such as noise, vibration, solvents, fumes or dust. With the results, you and your employer can take any action needed to protect your health and wellbeing.

### **Your Bupa private medical cover is not affected.**

Only the Bupa personal health assessments, which were available once every three to five years, are being removed. Your Bupa private medical cover will remain in place.

### **Why is this change happening?**

For many years the JIB has led the way in terms of improving the safety performance of the industry. But more can be done from a health perspective and, following extensive consultations with Unite the Union and ECA, the JIB has agreed to support the occupational health of industry employees, to help minimise the risk of you becoming ill as a result of the work you undertake.

### **Does my employer have to send me for an OHA?**

No, but the facility is funded as part of your JIB benefits and the new OHA arrangements will help to deliver various health benefits. Clients and main contractors are increasingly requiring evidence of OHAs as a condition of access to their sites.

By taking part in an OHA, you can also help to identify any early signs of ill health and take steps to improve the situation.

### **Find out more...**

More information on Occupational Health Assessments, and more detailed questions and answers, are available at [www.jib.org.uk/oha-operative](http://www.jib.org.uk/oha-operative)

Your employer will advise you if they plan to offer OHAs to their eligible staff, and can speak to you directly about your involvement.