

Email to physicians who have signed up to take the Analog-based B Reader Exam inviting them to also take 2019 Digital B Reader Exam:

Hello Dr. _____,

We are reaching out to you because you have arranged to take the Analog-based B Reader Exam on (Month, Day, Year).

NIOSH has maintained and administered the B Reader Training and Certification program for licensed physicians to demonstrate competence in the International Labour Office (ILO) system to classify chest radiographs for dust-related diseases (the pneumoconioses) since the 1970s. NIOSH has recently developed an updated B Reader Training Syllabus and Certification Examination (2019 Digital B Reader Exam) based upon digitally-acquired chest radiographic images.

NIOSH is offering the opportunity for those taking the Analog-based B Reader Exam to also take 2019 Digital B Reader Exam. Typically, the Analog-based B Reader Exams are given in the morning; those interested in taking the 2019 Digital B Reader Exam would return in the afternoon and take the 2019 Digital B Reader Exam.

If you choose to participate, your certification will be based upon your performance on the Analog-based B Reader Exam. Taking the 2019 Digital B Reader Exam will allow you to experience the exam before it replaces the Analog-based B Reader Exam and it will allow NIOSH to ensure that 2019 Digital B Reader Exam performs comparably to the Analog-based B Reader Exam. The 2019 Digital B Reader Exam consists of 72 images and 25 multiple choice questions and we anticipate it will take between 3.5 and 4 hours to complete.

We understand that by staying for the exam in the afternoon, you may incur additional travel expenses and valuable lost work time. Therefore, NIOSH is offering \$500 incentive for those who volunteer to participate in order to offset your additional travel expenses and lost work time.

If you would like to take the 2019 Digital B Reader Exam after you sit for the Analog-based B Reader Exam please notify us at least 10 working days prior to the date of your exam. For questions about scheduling please contact Jennifer Orrahood, Health Assessment Specialist, NIOSH Coal Workers' Health Surveillance Program (jdo7@cdc.gov; 304.285.6080).

Sincerely,

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