



B.F.D. Joint Wellness Committee



Dear Health Care Practitioner,

In recent years, studies of events including severe illness and firefighter fatalities have identified that the extraordinary exposures which a Firefighter encounters can lead to serious health issues.

In an effort to be proactive, the International Firefighters Association developed a Wellness Initiative for Firefighters and has implemented such a program in Phoenix, Arizona and Calgary, Alberta.

Recognizing the causal relationship between the exposures and demands of firefighting and serious health issues, the City of Brantford, the Brantford Fire Department and Local 460, the Brantford Professional Firefighters Association has joined together to develop such a wellness initiative. This causal relationship has been recognized in the recent Province of Ontario's Presumptive Legislation. Read more www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/reports/firefighters/review.html

At this time, we are inviting you to become a pivotal piece of this initiative as the Health Care Practitioner for your patient, a Firefighter.

In our effort to support a proactive approach to early detection and treatment, we are requesting Firefighters to see their physicians annually or when symptomatic. To assist you in your assessment of your patient, we have included a guideline suggesting the components of a baseline and annual medical screen. These components are based on recent literature.

The City of Brantford does not require you to share any confidential medical information. This information and the guideline provided are strictly meant to increase awareness of the hazards faced by Firefighters, in a collaborative approach with you.

Your patient will provide you with his audiometric screening for your

file. Thank you for your continued care and support.