



**OSTEOARTHRITIS OF THE KNEE IN
UNDERGROUND MINERS – REVIEW
OF OCCUPATIONAL CATEGORIES
AND DATES FOR EXPOSURE**

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) provides advice to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in Great Britain and the Department for Social Development in Northern Ireland about the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) scheme – the scheme by which employed earners in the UK receive benefits for industrial accidents or certain scheduled occupational diseases (prescribed diseases).

The Industrial Injuries Advisory Council (IIAC) is undertaking a review of occupational categories and the relevant qualifying dates for exposure for the prescribed disease PD A14 (osteoarthritis of the knee in underground miners). Currently PD A14 is prescribed for work in an underground mine for 10 years in aggregate in the following occupations: a) before 1986 as a coal miner; b) after 1986 as a face worker working on a non-mechanised coal face, development worker, face salvage worker, conveyor belt cleaner or conveyor belt attendant. The Council is particularly interested in receiving evidence and information about exposure to kneeling and squatting whilst under heavy load in any mining occupations, both those listed in the terms of prescription and those not mentioned, both before 1986 and after 1986. Further information on the scheme and the criteria IIAC uses in reviewing the terms of prescription can be found at www.iiac.org.uk.

Any organisation or individual with scientific or medical evidence about the risks of osteoarthritis of the knee in underground miners is invited to submit it to the Council at the address below no later than 1st October 2010.

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London, SW1H 9NA Tel: 0207 449 5618 email: iiac@dwp.gsi.gov.uk**