



## Health and Safety Definitions

**Significant hazard** means a hazard that is an actual or potential cause or source of—

- (a) serious harm; or
- (b) harm (being harm that is more than trivial) the severity of whose effects on any person depend (entirely or among other things) on the extent or frequency of the person's exposure to the hazard; or
- (c) harm that does not usually occur, or usually is not easily detectable, until a significant time after exposure to the hazard

**Serious harm is either death or these as listed below:**

- Any of the following conditions that amounts to or results in permanent loss of bodily function, or temporary severe loss of bodily function: respiratory disease, noise-induced hearing loss, neurological disease, cancer, dermatological disease, communicable disease, musculoskeletal disease, illness caused by exposure to infected material, decompression sickness, poisoning, vision impairment, chemical or hot-metal burn of eye, penetrating wound of eye, bone fracture, laceration, crushing.
- Amputation of body part.
- Burns requiring referral to a specialist medical practitioner or specialist outpatient clinic. Schedule 1 clause 3: amended, on 18 September 2004, by [section 175\(1\)](#) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (2003 No 48).
- Loss of consciousness from lack of oxygen.
- Loss of consciousness, or acute illness requiring treatment by a medical practitioner, from absorption, inhalation, or ingestion, of any substance. Schedule 1 clause 5: amended, on 18 September 2004, by [section 175\(1\)](#) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003 (2003 No 48).
- Any harm that causes the person harmed to be hospitalised for a period of 48 hours or more commencing within 7 days of the harm's occurrence.