

## Occupational Risks

Medical Assistants work directly with patients, with the goal of providing healthcare and ensuring patient safety. It is a position with a great deal of responsibility.

As with any healthcare position, there are certain occupational risks that come into play with being a Medical Assistant, and those hazards, include, but are not limited to:

- Exposure to Infectious Diseases
- Sharps Injuries
- Bloodborne Pathogens and Biological Hazards
- Chemical and Drug Exposure
- Latex Allergies
- Stress

There are protections set up with the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA), and those protections are particularly important within a healthcare environment. OSHA has a series of standards that protect the safety of healthcare workers and patients.