

ATLANTA VAMC LABORATORY SAFETY

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Safety Definition

- * **Safety** : the state of being safe; freedom from the occurrence or risk of injury, danger, or loss.
- * **Includes:** items in the Chemical Hygiene Manual

Lab Procedures and Chemical Hygiene Plan I-drive access

Computer > LAB (\\v07.med.va.gov\atg) (I:) > LABORATORY PROCEDURE MANUAL > Laboratory Chemical Hygiene Plan

Organize Open Print Burn New folder

Name	Date modified	Type	Size
Revised	1/8/2015 2:27 PM	File folder	
COVER PAGES Chemical Hygiene Plan	11/20/2014 11:32 ...	Microsoft Word 9...	55 KB
lab CHEM Hygiene Plan Manual Overview	10/3/2014 1:23 PM	Microsoft Excel W...	20 KB
PRINTABLE CHP 2010 - 2011	12/2/2010 9:34 AM	Adobe Acrobat D...	7,154 KB
PRINTABLE CHP	10/3/2014 2:31 PM	Microsoft Word 9...	12,264 KB
REVISED Current Laboratory Organization...	11/20/2014 3:16 PM	Microsoft PowerP...	101 KB
Section I Gen Req & Personal & Lab S...	11/10/2010 11:20 ...	Microsoft Word 9...	8,436 KB
Section II Warning Signs and Labels	4/5/2002 5:30 PM	Microsoft Word 9...	25 KB
Section III Fire Prevention and Control	11/20/2014 11:48 ...	Microsoft Word 9...	38 KB
Section IV Electrical Safety	4/17/2002 4:57 PM	Microsoft Word 9...	24 KB
Section IX Infection Control Guidelines	1/8/2015 2:13 PM	Microsoft Word 9...	808 KB
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Section VIII Hazardous Waste Management	11/20/2014 12:37 ...	Microsoft Word 9...	1,580 KB
Section X Reports of Incidents and Accid...	11/20/2014 1:29 PM	Microsoft Word 9...	1,143 KB
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General Lab Safety

1. Smoking
2. Eating and Drinking
3. Food
4. Cosmetics
5. Contact Lenses
6. Face Protection
7. Clothing/Personal
8. Shoes
9. Hair
10. Beards
11. Hand Washing
12. Mouth Pipetting
13. Aisles and Exits
14. Precautions Isolation Procedures
15. Good Housekeeping
16. Glassware
17. Centrifuges
18. Autoclaves
19. Refrigerators and Freezers
20. **Eye Wash/Showers:** Supervisors demonstrate during orientation; Jeff Jones demonstration
Fire Extinguishers

Labels

All reagent kits and materials must be labeled with:

- * Content
- * Concentration (if applicable)
- * Date received (or prepared)
- * Date placed in service
- * Storage requirements; expiration date

All hazardous reagents must also be labeled with:

- * Caution required
- * Type of hazard (poison, irritant, inhalant, carcinogen)
- * Precautions (do not pipette, avoid skin contact, do not inhale, use only in enclosed areas, use only in ventilated areas, etc.).
- * Instructions in case of accident (wash immediately)

Signage throughout: Biohazard, Flammable, Acids, Fire Extinguisher, No FOOD allowed in refrigerator, etc.

Fire Prevention

Prevention:

- * 1. Beware of ignition source: open flames, heating elements and spark gaps (motors, light switches, friction and static).
- * 2. Do not use flammable liquids in the presence of ignitable sources; and, conversely, keep ignitable sources away from areas where flammable liquids are used and/or stored.

Flammable liquids give off vapors that may also burn or explode. Be sure flammable liquids are used and/or stored.

- * 1. Quantities of one gallon or more should be stored in **SAFETY CANS**.
- * 2. **BULK STORAGE** should be placed in a safety cabinet or in a flammable storeroom.
- * 3. Small quantities “in use” should be stored in well-ventilated areas.

NOTE: Festive decorations are restricted to painted decorations on glass. The hanging of decorations is prohibited.

FIRE!

Priorities in case of fire:

a. Sound alarm first to get help and to initiate evacuation of the area or building.

RACE

(1). **REMOVE** Patients and Visitors to a safe area.

(2). **ACTIVATE** nearest manual fire alarm box and dial “**4911**” to report exact location.

(3). **CONFINE** fire by closing doors.

(4). **EXTINGUISH** fire and evacuate Patients and Visitors, **if necessary**.

FIRE EXTINGUISHER OPERATION

OPERATING PROCEDURE

- * Pull the pin.
- * Aim the hose at the base of the fire.
- * Squeeze the trigger.
- * Sweep spray in a sweeping motion.

Electrical Safety

Grounding: All instruments must be grounded and periodically checked by Clinical Engineering.

Report shocks: All shocks must be reported immediately, including small tingles. Small shocks often precede major shocks and a light tingle may indicate potential trouble.

Equipment repairs: DO NOT work on or attempt to repair any instrument while it is plugged in. Notify your supervisor for repair or notify Clinical Engineering.

Environmental repairs: Repairs on the electrical system of the building are prohibited. Any work performed must be referred to the Facilities Service.

Extension cords: Should be avoided. If used, they must be 3-way type and properly grounded. Gang plugs are prohibited. All extension cords must be obtained from Utilities Management or Information Technology

Infection Control Hazards

Bloodborne Pathogens: Standard Precautions

SHARPS SAFETY!

1. Retractable needles
2. Needles in urine cup lids
3. Sharps containers
4. No sharps in trash!

Sharps Safety Practices

- Be prepared
- Be aware
- Dispose with care

It takes a team to eliminate sharps injuries...



Clean Up and Dispose with Care

During Cleanup

- Be accountable for sharps you use
- Check procedure trays, waste materials, and bedding for exposed sharps before handling
- Look for sharps/equipment left behind inadvertently

It takes a team to eliminate sharps injuries...



Clean Up and Dispose With Care

During Cleanup (cont'd)

- Transport reusable sharps in a closed container
- Secure the container to prevent spillage

It takes a team to eliminate sharps injuries...



Compressed Gases

Introduction: Compressed gases constitute several hazards. Any gas cylinder with a broken valve head becomes a missile capable of penetrating walls. Specific gases may be toxic or flammable. Finally, heating of cylinders may result in explosion.

General Standards:

- * Cylinders must be **secured** at all times so they cannot fall.
- * Valve safety covers should be left on until pressure regulators are attached.
- * Containers must be marked clearly with the name of the contents. Tanks with wired on tags or color code only should not be accepted.
- * Hand trucks or dollies must be used in moving cylinders. **Do not roll or drag cylinders.**
- * The use of oil, grease or lubricants on valves, regulators, or fittings is prohibited.

Chemical Hazards

Flammable Storage

Acid Storage

Formaldehyde

Xylene

Disposal of Hazardous Waste:

- * As defined by the Hazardous Material Protocol in the Medical Center's Safety Manual: All chemicals in these categories will be disposed of by properly labeling with a **hazardous waste label**.
- * Hazardous waste will be delivered weekly (Wednesday 2-3 p.m.) to the HazMat storage building for disposal.

Carcinogens

USE proper PPE!

Procedures For the Disposal of Carcinogens and Suspected Carcinogens:

- * These chemicals are disposed of exactly the same way as hazardous chemicals. See Hazardous Chemical section for disposal procedure.

MSDS or “SDS”: SAFETY DATA SHEETS

Reminder: Create a shortcut to this important VA MSDS link on your primary computer DESKTOP. (The new terminology for MSDS is “SDS”...)

<http://vaww.ceosh.med.va.gov/ceosh/MSDS.shtml>



CEOSH



VHA Center for Engineering &
Occupational Safety and Health
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Error processing SSI file

- Activations
- Biomedical Engineering
- Capital Asset Management
- Emergency Management
- Energy Management
- Environmental Program Services
- GEMS
- Healthcare Engineering
- Safety & Fire

- A - Z Index
- Accreditation (TJC and CARF)
- Conference Calls
- Guidebooks
- SDS/Chemical Inventory Service
- Policy Library
- Technical Career Field
- Workforce/ Resources
- Feedback/ Satisfaction



SDS/CHEMICAL INVENTORY SERVICE



Welcome to the SDS/Chemical Inventory Service page. Our service is a single, integrated web-based application that provides you access to hazardous material inventories and Safety Data Sheets (SDSs). This resource was designed to provide everything you need for successful chemical inventory management. If you need assistance or more information, please [Contact Us](#).

SERVICE ACCESS:

*Note: Requests **should not** be sent to 3E except in an emergency situation or after normal business hours.*

SDS REQUEST OR MANIFEST SUBMITTAL: [Customer Portal](#)

Use the Customer Portal to submit a request for an SDS that cannot be found in the SDS Library, or to submit a Hazardous Waste Manifest



Hazardous Material Information System

100% Ethyl Alcohol Page 4 of 4

Section 15. Other Information

Label requirements

Hazardous Material Information System (U.S.A.)	Health	1	National Fire Protection Association (U.S.A.)	
	Fire Hazard	3		
	Reactivity	0		
	Personal Protection			

References

Other Special Considerations

Notice to Reader
To the best of our knowledge, the information contained herein is accurate. However, neither the above named supplier nor any of its subsidiaries assumes any liability whatsoever for the accuracy or completeness of the information contained herein.

Reporting Incidents

1. Notify your supervisor!
2. Occupational Health/ER
3. ASSISTS

Questions?

THANK YOU!