

### Prudent Practices *(continued)*

- ◆ Review the conditions of the laboratory hood before performing operations inside it
- ◆ Never position materials stored in the hood in such a manner as to block the air flow
- ◆ Know and use the proper methods of disposing hazardous waste
- ◆ Unattended operations require additional precautions:
  - Leave the lights on
  - Place a sign on the door restricting entrance and listing emergency information
  - Set up a containment area when working with toxic materials

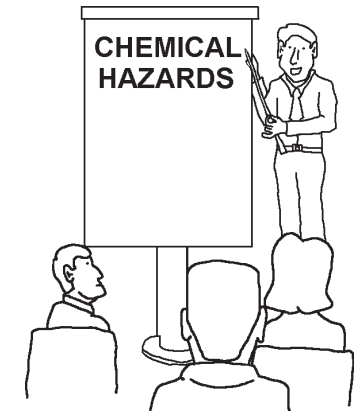


## Chemical Hygiene Plan

Laboratory standards require that procedures be developed and implemented to assist in the reduction of occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals.

### OSHA Laboratory Standard Intent

- ◆ Set performance provisions designed to protect the laboratory worker from potential hazards in the work environment.
- ◆ Give flexibility to design and implement innovative measures to reduce employee exposure to hazardous substances.
- ◆ Increase the worker's awareness of potential risks and improve work practices.



### Written Chemical Hygiene Plan Addresses Eight Topics

- 1) Personnel responsibility for implementing the plan
- 2) Employee medical consultations and exams:
  - Some chemicals require medical surveillance if the air monitoring results indicate routine exposure above the action levels or PELs
  - If an accident results and there is the likelihood that the worker may have been exposed, the employee will have the opportunity for a medical consultation
  - If a laboratory worker develops symptoms of exposure, that worker may receive a medical examination
  - All consultations or exams will be performed by a licensed physician
- 3) Procedures on how to determine and implement measures to control a hazard

**Written Chemical Hygiene Plan Addresses Eight Topics** *(continued)*

- 4) Equipment procedures for the proper operation of laboratory hoods and other protective equipment
- 5) Operations procedures for the organization
- 6) Specific steps to follow when advance approval is needed
- 7) Protective measures to address selective carcinogens, reproductive toxins, and materials with high acute toxicity:
  - Containment devices
  - Decontamination procedures
  - Waste disposal
  - Designated areas
  - Hazardous chemical signage
- 8) Employee information and training:
  - Training will be given upon initial assignment to an area containing hazardous chemicals
  - Refresher training as needed



**Prudent Practices**

- ◆ Determine the protective measures necessary before starting an operation
- ◆ Prevent unnecessary exposure to any chemical
- ◆ Keep the work area clean and free of clutter — clean after each operation and at the end of the work day
- ◆ Do not store food or drink in the refrigerator designated to hold chemicals
- ◆ Practice good personal hygiene — wash your hands after working with chemicals, never apply make up in the laboratory
- ◆ Mouth pipetting, smelling, or tasting chemicals is not permitted
- ◆ Before conducting an experiment, always take the time to review the kinds of chemicals needed, and the quantities and hazards
- ◆ Seek to identify new chemicals that may be substituted to reduce the exposure potential
- ◆ Wear proper personal protective equipment when required
- ◆ Check the condition of the personal protective equipment before using it — when in doubt, throw it out
- ◆ Transport chemicals by using an unbreakable secondary container
- ◆ Provide local exhaust ventilation for any chemical or process that may release toxic fumes

