

Labels and Signage

1. Door Signs

- The entrances to work areas must display specific safety signs with special attention paid to fire hazards and flammable materials, and to toxic, radioactive, or biologically hazardous or otherwise harmful materials. The importance of microbiological and chemical hazards should not be overlooked in assessing the relative risk present in a given area. Those identified are as follows:

A. Laser Light



B. Carcinogens



C. Radioactive Materials



D. Biohazard Agents



E. Ultraviolet Light



F. Microwave Radiation



G. Flammable solvents



H. Toxic Chemicals



I. Corrosive Materials



2. Hazardous Chemicals

- Containers of hazardous chemicals should be labeled, tagged, or marked with the following information:
 - Name of the chemical
 - Storing and handling instructions
 - Date of receipt
 - Date of preparation (if applicable)
 - Date opened or placed into service
 - Expiration Date
- Containers that are too small to be labeled should be kept in a labeled larger container. These items should be for single use only.
- Existing labels on containers carrying hazardous chemicals should not be removed or defaced unless the container is immediately marked with the required relabeling information.
- Labels or other forms of warning should be legible, in English, and prominently displayed on the container. Laboratories with employees who speak other languages may add the information in their language, as long as the information is in English as well.

3. Secondary Containers

- Any secondary container into which hazardous chemicals are transferred from labeled containers should also be labeled with the chemical identity of the contents and any precautionary handling hazards, including specific effects of the chemical and target organs affected. An example is provided:



- The only permissible exceptions to this requirement are containers intended for immediate use only by the person who does the transfer; in this case, the container should remain in the custody of the person who does the transfer.

4. Radionuclides

- Laboratories using or storing radionuclides must be marked with radiation signs as prescribed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) (See above Door Signage).

- As per OSEH, designated radionuclide work and storage areas must be clearly identified and all equipment or containers used for radionuclide work must be labeled properly with radioactive material warning tape. Refrigerators and freezers used to store radionuclides must be clearly labeled with specific labels. Radioactive material samples, stock vials, sealed and plated sources must be labeled with sufficient radiological information to identify the radionuclide, activity, and date.

5. Refrigerators and Freezers

- Refrigerators and/or freezers approved for storage of flammable liquids shall be labeled as “Explosion Proof”.
- Refrigerators and/or freezers that are utilized to store non-flammable reagents and patient specimens shall be labeled with the following:



- Refrigerators and/or freezers that are utilized for the storage of food and drinks shall be labeled with the following:



6. Hazardous Waste Chemicals and Materials for Disposal

- Waste containers for any chemical solutions must be immediately labeled with an OSEH Hazardous Waste label as soon as the waste is generated.

DEPT. OF OSEH
1655 Dean Rd.
The University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, MI 48109-2159
(734) 763-4568

HAZARDOUS WASTE

EPA ID No. MR000001784
MANIFEST DOCUMENT # _____

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY CONTACT
PUBLIC SAFETY (24 HOURS): (734) 763-1131

**WASTE CHEMICALS AND MATERIALS
FOR DISPOSAL ONLY**

GENERATOR INFORMATION:
NAME: Histology
ROOM NUMBER 2F341 BUILDING University of Michigan Hospitals
CHEMICAL DESCRIPTION (DO NOT ABBREVIATE)

MI Act 451/
RCRA Waste Code

Rev. 8/99


**HANDLE WITH CARE
CONTAINS HAZARDOUS OR TOXIC WASTES
AFFIX TO BOTTLE**


Accumulation
Start Date _____

Resources

NCCLS. *Clinical Laboratory Safety; Approved Guideline—Second Edition.*
Document GP17-A2 (ISBN 1-56238-530-5).

Gile, T. J. (2007, April). *Complete Guide to Laboratory Safety* (2nd ed.).
Marblehead, MA: HCPPro, Inc.

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