Safer Chemicals: An Overview

The HH Safer Chemicals challenge provides hospitals with the tools and resources to choose health care products that are free from harmful chemicals.

www.healthierhospitals.org

Why Is The Safer Chemicals Challenge Important For Hospitals?

More chemicals are used in health care than in any other sector. Many of these chemicals are harmful to individual health, public health & the environment.

Committing To Safer Chemicals With Healthier Hospitals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level 1</th>
<th>Commit to one of the following: Green cleaning, DEHP and PVC reduction, healthy interiors, mercury elimination.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level 2</td>
<td>Commit to two of the following: Green cleaning, DEHP and PVC reduction, healthy interiors, mercury elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 3</td>
<td>Commit to three of the following: Green cleaning, DEHP and PVC reduction, healthy interiors, mercury elimination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Commit to four of the following: Green cleaning, DEHP and PVC reduction, healthy interiors, mercury elimination.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Metrics For Success: Safer Chemicals Measure Details

- **Green Cleaning**
  - Inventory cleaning products & purchase 90% Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO certified cleaning products in the following categories: carpet, window, all purpose, bathroom, & general floor care.

- **DEHP & PVC Reduction**
  - Eliminate DEHP and PVC from at least two product categories.

- **Healthy Interiors**
  - Ensure that 30 percent of the annual volume of furnishings and furniture purchases (based on cost) eliminate the use of formaldehyde, perfluorinated compounds, (PVC), antimicrobials, and all flame retardants.

- **Mercury Elimination**
  - Achieve mercury-free status or develop and implement mercury elimination plan.