

# **Safer Chemicals Challenge**

# Mercury

Goal

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

### **Definition Details**

Complete the mercury elimination checklist

#### **Calculation Details**

#### None

## Green **Cleaning**

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

\*Does not include strippers or finishes.

Completed cleaning products inventory form

Percent of dollars spent on cleaning products that are **Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO** certified

Add specifications to meet this challenge and require tracking of spend into all product, service and leased **building contracts** 

NOTE THIS IS DONE BY PRODUCT **CATEGORY** 

Numerator: dollars for Green Seal or UL ECOLOGO cleaning products in target categories

Denominator: dollars for all cleaning products in target categories

**Exclusions: None** 

Measure = numerator/denominator \* 100

# **DEHP** and **PVC** Reduction

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

**Product categories** include:

- 1. Breast Pumps and accessories,
- 2. Enteral Nutrition **Products, including** all tubing,
- 3. Parenteral Infusion Devices and Sets,
- 4. General **Urological** (irrigation/urology sets and solutions, urinary catheters),
- 5. Exam Gloves,
- 6. Vascular **Catheters including Umbilical Vessel** Catheters, and
- **Tubes**

Percent of dollars spent on **PVC/DEHP-free medical** products for seven defined categories

Numerator: dollars spent on PVC/ **DEHP-free medical products** 

Denominator: dollars spent on medical products

**Exclusions: None** 

Measure = numerator/denominator \* 100

Count of PVC/DEHP-free product categories

Numerator: Count of PVC/DEHP-free product categories

**Exclusions: None** Measure = numerator \* 1

7. Nasogastric

# 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, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), antimicrobials\*, and all flame retardants\*\*.

Actual dollar amount and percent of dollars spent on furniture and furnishings that eliminate the intentional use of targeted chemicals of concern

Total units of furniture purchased without targeted chemicals of concern by product category.

Numerator: dollars spent on furniture and furnishings that meet the goal

Denominator: dollars spent on all furniture and furnishings

**Exclusions: None** 

Measure = numerator/ denominator \* 100

Furnishings and furniture include seating (chairs, stools, sofas, benches, etc.), work surfaces (tables, desks, etc.), built-in and modular casework, systems (walled desks with seating), beds (including mattresses), storage units (cabinets, filing cabinets, dressers, drawers, etc.), shelving (bookshelves, built-in shelves, etc.), panels and partitions, cubicle curtains, and window coverings.

# Resources

- -Education: www.healthierhospitals.org
- -Data Submission: www.ihi.org
- -Refer to Data Submission Guide for More Information
- -Contact help@practicegreenhealth.org for help with any questions, or call (603)

<sup>\*</sup> Triclosan and triclocarban are explicitly prohibited. No other added or built-in chemical antimicrobials are allowed unless they are registered with the U.S. EPA under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), and have published data that show efficacy in a hospital/clinical setting measured by a reduction in healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) as part of comprehensive infection control measures. Antimicrobials added to materials or products for the sole purpose of preserving the product are exempt.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Eliminate the intentional use of all flame retardants where code permits. When flame retardant chemicals are necessary to meet code requirements, use chemicals that meet GreenScreen Benchmark 3 or 4 or their equivalent.