

Environment of Care Standard 3.10: The organization manages hazardous materials and waste risks

Element of Performance 5. Hazardous Gas and Vapor Management

The organization monitors and disposes of hazardous gases and vapors.

Evidence of Compliance	Evidence of Performance Improvement
Hazardous Materials Management	
<p>Hazardous gases are inventoried throughout facility including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> waste anesthetic gases from surgery <input type="checkbox"/> ethylene oxide <p>Materials with potential to emit hazardous vapors, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> formaldehyde <input type="checkbox"/> glutaraldehyde <input type="checkbox"/> xylene <input type="checkbox"/> other air contaminants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous gas tanks managed appropriately <input type="checkbox"/> All waste anesthetic gases scavenged using active scavenging methods <input type="checkbox"/> Management, exposure control plans implemented for all hazardous gases and vapors in facility. <input type="checkbox"/> Documentation maintained of monitoring program for employees exposed to hazardous gases <input type="checkbox"/> Employees trained, tested regarding hazardous gas and vapors use and disposal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use of hazardous gases and materials that emit hazardous vapors eliminated to extent possible.
Materials of Concern	
<p>Ethylene Oxide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Management plan describes actions in event of accidental ethylene oxide release <input type="checkbox"/> Ethylene oxide sterilizer has valid operating permit if required <input type="checkbox"/> Emission controls for ethylene oxide sterilizers in place, well maintained <input type="checkbox"/> Exposure levels monitored periodically where necessary <p>Formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Employee exposure to formaldehyde monitored, or employee exposure < 0.5 ppm TWA 	<p>Ethylene Oxide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ethylene oxide replaced with safer alternative sterile processing technology <p>Formaldehyde, glutaraldehyde:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Formalin use minimized to the extent possible. <input type="checkbox"/> Formalin is recycled <input type="checkbox"/> Glutaraldehyde replaced with less hazardous high-level disinfectant <p>Xylene, other solvents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Xylene use is limited to the extent possible and/or terpene-based clearing agents are used. <input type="checkbox"/> Solvents are recycled. <p>Other air contaminants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Use of aerosols (e.g. room deodorizers, cleaners, hand sanitizers) reduced or eliminated.