Competency Project Part 3

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to identify safety techniques that can be used to respond to accidental exposure to blood, bodily fluids, needle sticks, and chemicals. Following that, I will show an example of a safety data sheet that can be found in a medical laboratory. I will also will also explain the purpose of its use in a healthcare setting. In addition, I will discuss disposal methods for iodine, bleach, blood agar, and expired reagents. The final step will be to identify safety signs, symbols, and labels

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Safety Techniques

Different accidental exposures will be discussed, along with how to respond. In the event of an exposure to blood, you should inform your supervisor, clean the area with water or saline, and then perform post-exposure treatment (Booth's Medical Assisting Anatomy and Physiology,2021). In the event that you have been exposed to other bodily fluids, wash with soap and water, review your vaccination record, and then document the incident. After an accidental needle stick, remove the blood, clean it under running water, determine the risk of illness, and vaccinate immediately. In conclusion, when exposed to chemicals, identify the type of chemical and administer the appropriate antidotes

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Safety Data Sheets

Developing a culture of safety in a healthcare environment begins with safety data sheets. Hazardous materials, particularly those involving chemicals, are typically regulated by safety data sheets (Safety Data Sheets nih.gov). By doing so, they further educate us about the safety precautions to take when handling hazardous materials. There are a number of liquids that can cause a fire, such as Methanol, Ethanol, Acetone, Xylene, Toluene, Ethyl acetate, Tetrahydrofuran, Ethyl ether, Benzene, Dimethylformamide, Acetonitrile, Hexane, and Pyridine.

Chemical Materials

I will provide some examples if properly disposing of chemical materials. First the protocol of disposal of iodine; use a HEPA filter vacuum for clean up and place into sealed containers for disposal, do not wash into sewer iodine is hazardous for fish. Next, when disposing of bleach be sure to dilute it as much as possible. Third, disposal of blood agar; it should be disposed after sterilization, placed into the trash. Lastly, the disposal of expired reagent; do not combine chemical bottles, liquid and solid should be disposed in running water in the sink. Hazardous types of chemicals should be packed and handled over to a professional.

Symbols

Biohazard Symbol- only hazardous material allowed (Delmer's Comprehensive Medical Assisting,2010).

Toxicon symbol- proceed with caution, toxins present

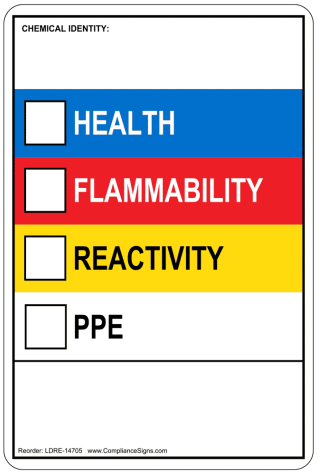
No cigarette smoking- do not smoke in area

Handicap label- for handicaps only

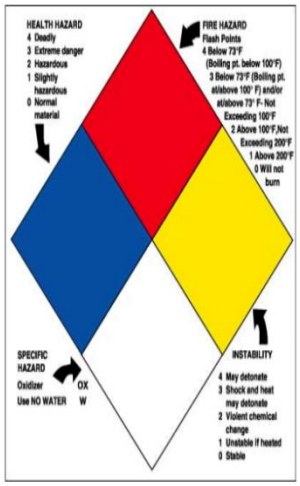
Fire extinguisher label- there is a fire extinguisher present

No food or drink label- No food or drink is allowed

Radiation Label- there radiation present



Chemical identifier label- help to identify chemicals



National Fire Prevention Association (NFPA) Label- tips on how to prevent fires

Resources

2010, Delmer's Comprehensive Medical Assisting Administrative and Clinical Competencies, Delmer Cengage learning.

2021, Medical Assisting Administrative and Clinical procedures with Anatomy and Physiology, Seventh Edition, McGraw Hill.

Safety Data Sheets (nih.gov)

isopropyl-alcohol-sds.pdf (ciscochem.com)