

October 27, 2022

Integrated Long-Term Care and Assisted Living Services Awareness of Hazardous Drug Precautions: Updates to Provincial Exposure Control Plan and Provincial Hazardous Drugs List

What is happening?

There is a new BC Provincial Hazardous Drugs List and Hazardous Drugs Exposure Control Plan. Previously, all health authorities had their own hazardous drug lists and handling precautions protocols.

This phase of communication is focused on raising awareness for affiliated care homes served by community pharmacists. More information will follow around full implementation targeted to affiliated care communities and community pharmacy.

Updates include:

- Expansion of the BC Provincial Hazardous Drug list with new terminology.
 - Group 1 Hazardous Drug
 - Group 2 Hazardous Drug
- Group 1 and Group 2 categories based on carcinogenic and other health risks.
- Precautions will now be required for drugs that formerly did not require handling precautions.
- The BC Provincial Hazardous Drug list will be updated monthly and requires monitoring to ensure care communities are up to date.
- Hazardous Drugs Exposure Control Plan has new education requirements and requirements for Risk Assessments and Safe Work Procedures.

Why this change?

- The list of Hazardous Drugs was updated based on current evidence.
- Handling precautions have been updated to align with Work Safe BC - Occupational Health and Safety Regulation and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

What can you do now?

- Attend the information webinar
 - When: November 17, 2022
 - Time: 1:30 – 2:30
 - Link: <https://fraserhealth.zoom.us/j/68051462274?pwd=a3RIQ1RleTRrS1hkY3E2WlpuMXZ4QT09>
- Learning Hub Curriculum is available for staff (details on page 2 & 3)
- Assess Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure you meet Provincial standards
- Identify if supplies/equipment is needed
- The BC Hazardous Drug List is updated regularly



BC Hazardous
Drugs List 2022 10 0

- Review what safe work procedures are required

Questions?

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Hazardous Drugs Education Curriculum

	Courses in the Curriculum	Description	Intended Audience
Hazardous Drugs Safety Awareness	1. Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defines hazardous drugs and the two Groups of drugs Explains who is at risk, when there is a risk, and potential route of exposure Identifies roles and responsibilities and methods to minimize/reduce the risk 	<p>All employees and support services working in a facility where hazardous drugs may be present.</p> <p>Examples of occupations: allied health who do not provide direct care.</p>
Hazardous Drugs Safety for Staff Who Administer Hazardous Drugs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness Administering Providing Care Spill Responder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands on the risks associated with administering hazardous drugs and how to minimize workplace exposure Discusses requirements for documentation and recordkeeping, and the process for protective reassignment Explains how to clean up hazardous drug spills and how to document exposures 	<p>Staff who handle, prepare, or administer hazardous drugs.</p> <p>Examples of occupations: Nurses in acute care, long-term care, and community settings who may administer hazardous drugs.</p>
Hazardous Drugs Safety for Staff Who Provide Care	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness Providing Care Spill Responder 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discusses the risks for care providers and how the methods by which those risks are communicated Explains how to clean up hazardous drug spills and how to document exposures 	<p>Point of care employees who are not directly involved in hazardous drug administration.</p> <p>Examples of occupations: Care aides, nursing assistants and other allied health professions providing direct care.</p>
Hazardous Drugs Safety for Pharmacy Staff	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness Compounding Pharmacy Spill Responder Unpacking and Transport 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expands on the risks and the controls used to minimize exposure in a pharmacy setting Discusses guidelines for compounding and packaging hazardous drugs Explains how to clean up hazardous drug spills in a pharmacy setting and how to document exposures 	<p>Pharmacy employees.</p> <p>Examples of occupations: pharmacists, pharmacy technicians.</p>
Hazardous Drugs Safety for Staff Who Receive, Unpack, and Transport Drugs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness Receiving, Unpacking and Transport Spill Responder 	<p>This curriculum focuses on the risk of transporting packages containing hazardous drugs and how to respond to packages that are damaged or leaking</p>	<p>Employees who receive, unpack, or transport hazardous drugs.</p> <p>Examples of occupations: Shipper/receivers.</p>

Hazardous Drugs Spill Response	1. Spill Responder	This curriculum consists of only the Spill Responder module, which explains how to clean up hazardous drug spills and how to document exposures.	Anyone who is responsible for cleaning hazardous drugs spill.
Hazardous Drugs Safety for Environmental Services Staff	1. Environmental Services	This curriculum consists of only the Environmental Services modules, which is similar to the Awareness module but focusing on risks associated with Environmental Services and Housekeeping employees.	Environmental Services and Housekeeping employees.