Hazard Communication Awareness Training
Your right to know!

- OSHA - employee safety - hazard communication - 29 CFR 1910.1200
- EPA - environmental safety
- DOT - transportation safety - shipping & receiving requirements - 49 CFR

Hazards Communication: Key Points

- Hazardous chemicals and materials are potentially dangerous if not handled properly
  - Know what you are handling
  - Know the hazards associated with the chemical/material
  - Know the measures you can take to protect yourself and others
  - Know where and how to obtain Safety Data Sheets
  - Know general and emergency spill response measures
- **Hazardous Chemical** : is any chemical which is a physical hazard (flammable, reactive, explosive, etc.) or a health hazard (exposure results in acute or chronic health effects
- **Hazardous Material**: is a substance or material that has been determined to be capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety and property when transported in commerce
- All GBMC employees receive awareness training upon initial employment as well as an annual competency through net learning.

Hazardous Communications Awareness
Safety Data Sheet

- **Safety Data Sheet** (SDS) provides vital information that includes:
  - Identification of the chemical/substance
  - Physical characteristics of the chemical/substance
  - Hazardous ingredients in the chemical/substance
  - Health hazards associated with the use of chemical/substance
  - Handling precautions to include the type of PPE
  - First aid recommendation in the event of exposure
  - Reactivity data (flammable/combustible)
  - Control procedures such as storage temperature, flash points, containment
- MSDS ON LINE located ON THE GBMC Info Web, provides every employee 24/7 access to the SDS for all chemicals/materials used at GBMC.

Hazardous Communication Awareness
How to Obtain a Safety Data Sheet

Step 1 – Go to the GBMC Info web Page

Step 2 -  **Click on Departments & Services**

Step 3 -  **Click on Material Safety Data Sheet**

Step 4 -  **Click on “All Products” or enter the name of the chemical in “search”**

Step 5 –  **Click on the PDF icon to view or print**

Hazardous communications Awareness : Personal Protective Equipment

- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is provided and available to employees by reason of hazards encountered that are capable of causing injury or impairment
- PPE ***is not*** an alternative for engineering, work practice, and/or administrative controls
- Use of PPE does not eliminate the hazard so if the PPE equipment fails then exposure occurs
- Must be worn to provide protection
- Refer to the GBMC Infection Control Manual for appropriate PPE guidelines.

Hazardous Communications Awareness Labeling

- Labels
  - All containers must be properly labeled
  - Labels on ***original*** containers must include the identity of the material, appropriate hazard warnings and manufacturer information
  - Labels on secondary containers must include identity and appropriate hazard warning

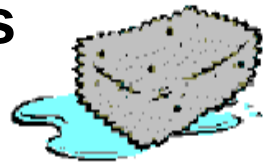
	**Exploding bomb** (for explosion or reactivity hazards)		**Flame** (for fire hazards)		**Flame over circle** (for oxidizing hazards)
	**Gas cylinder** (for gases under pressure)		**Corrosion** (for corrosive damage to metals, as well as skin, eyes)		**Skull and Crossbones** (can cause death or toxicity with short exposure to small amounts)
	**Health hazard** (may cause or suspected of causing serious health effects)		**Exclamation mark** (may cause less serious health effects or damage the ozone layer*)		**Environment*** (may cause damage to the aquatic environment)
	**Biohazardous Infectious Materials** (for organisms or toxins that can cause diseases in people or animals)				**Radioactive**

* The GHS system also defines an Environmental hazards group. This group (and its classes) was not adopted in WHMIS 2015. However, you may see the environmental classes listed on labels and Safety Data Sheets (SDSs). Including information about environmental hazards is allowed by WHMIS 2015.

Prevention of Spills & Leaks

- Inspect containers regularly to make sure they are in good condition
- Secondary containment can prevent serious spills and subsequent reactions
- All hazardous chemicals/materials must be stored according to compatibility so that accidental mixing does not occur (applies to gas cylinders as well)
- Read labels and safety data sheets so you are familiar with how to protect yourself before there is an emergency
- Use proper containers which are clearly and appropriately labeled
- Spill kits should be available in all storage and use areas

Hazardous Communications Awareness
General Spill Response Procedures



- Identify chemical/material by using labels, markings, shipping papers, SDS's or Emergency Response Guidebook
- **S=Safety** is the priority. Remove all persons in immediate danger to safety.
- **I= Isolate** the area by closing doors and keeping people away from the area.
- **N=Notify** Security to request help. Notify department manager. Identify contaminated areas. Isolate the contaminated patient and/or contamination area. Establish zones to reduce exposure to others.
- **Provide Security with the following information**
  - Name and department
  - Location of emergency
  - Substance name
  - Size of spill
  - Approximate rate of flow
  - Actions taken to control spill