

Veterinary Health & Safety

Preventing Hazardous Exposures Among Veterinary & Animal Care Workers



- ✦ Veterinary and animal care workers are at risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals, such as cleaning products, medications, anesthetic gases, pesticides, and other substances.
- ✦ Exposure can happen through inhalation, absorption through skin, ingestion, or splashes to the eyes, nose, or skin.
- ✦ Exposure to these hazards may result in short- or long-term adverse health effects due to improper handling.



Hazardous Drugs (HDs)

- Train staff in handling, use, and storage.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Administer drugs in designated locations.
- Use extra caution if pregnant, breastfeeding, or of reproductive age.



Cleaners & Disinfectants

- Read labels.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Do not mix chemicals.
- Choose safe cleaning products.
- Store chemicals properly.
- Train staff in handling, use, and storage of chemicals.



Needlestick Injuries

- Be proactive.
- Report injuries.
- Anticipate risk.
- Use safe work practices when handling sharps.
- Ensure proper disposal and cleanup of sharps.

Scan the QR code to access the **Veterinary Health & Safety toolkit** and other resources.



If a chemical exposure occurs and you need immediate assistance, contact **NJ Poison Center Help Line: 1-800-222-1222**.

1-800-222-1222

