

Policy 170

Policy: Mercury Elimination Program

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#### **APPLICATION**

#### NYU LangoneHealth

#### **PURPOSE**

To protect personnel and the environment from unnecessary exposure to mercury

To provide a reasonable timeline for removing mercury from NYULH

To ensure the proper management of mercontaining product sequipment and substances

### POLICY AND GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.0 Application

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- All NYULH owned and leased facilities
- All fully -owned Faculty Group Practices
- Addrestopsloofed & Utilitidents, licensed independent practitioners (LIPs), volunteers, and

The primary departments and divisions impacted by this program are:

- Clinical and research laboratories
- Clinical Engineering
- Pharmacy
- Physician group pratices
- RED+F and its contractors
- Supply Chain Management



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2.0 Policy

NYULH shall eliminate the use of mercucontaining products

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- 4 ensuring specifications for purchase of clinical instrumentation are in accordance with Clinical Engineering recommendations and requirements
- 4 ensuring their departments maint piroduct codes, SKUs, and information for items containing or suspected of containing mercury
- 4 notifying EH&S immediately in the event of a mercury spill
- 4 investigating and evaluating availa mercuryfree alternatives needed
- 4 ensuring staff receive training on the Program as needed
- 5.4 Dental practices are responsible for using amalgam separators for collecting and recycling of elemental mercury as per the NY Dental Mercury & Amalgam Recycling Law of 2002.
- 5.5 Supply Chain Managementis responsible for
  - 4 working with departments and consultants in conjunction with the Group Purchasing Organization (GPO) and suppliers to advise, negatiate purchase materials that meet the standards of the Program wherever possible
  - 4 responding to requests for purchasing information based on product information(manufacturer ID)Note: t is not Supply Chain Management's responsibility to keep track of product codes, SKUs or information for items containing or suspected of containing mercury
  - 4 ensuring the department operates in accordance with the Program when pursuing contracts, supplier agreemented purchasing
- 5.6 Clinical Engineering is responsible formaking recommendations on clinical devices in accordance ith the Program and providing commendations on alternatives as they enter the market
- 5.7 Environmental Health and Safety and NYU Langone Hospital Long Island (NYULH -LI) Housekeeping are responsible:
  - 4 providing or coordinating mercury spill response and claps when departments are not equipped to do so independently
  - 4 arranging for prris-1 (pTj Ppe0r74d3 EMC /LBody <</MCID 56(g)7 )3 (e)9.25 0 Td ( )



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- 6.0 Design and purchasing guidelines
  - 6.1 Clinical Engineering has eliminated clinical equipment that contains mercury in facilities it services.
  - All staff members who develop specifications for purchasing shall adhere to the Program and seek out mercufree alternatives, particularly for pharmaceutical and laboratory product Resources for finding new mercufre (r)3 (og)s 3-2ubs 3-2t)]TJro(



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10.2 The Sustainability Manager shall report necessary components of the above information to Practice Greenhealth, the Healthier Hospital Initiative, and any additional sustainability initiatives as relevant.

Related Safety Policies

107: Disposal of Computers and Electronic Equipment108: Chemical Waste Minimization and Disposal Program

108a: Hazardous Waste from Contractors (Construction Maintenance)

108c: Universal Waste Management Program

121: Hazard Communication Program 134: Chemical Hygiene Program.

Appendix A	Mercury-containingItemsUsed inLabs
Appendix B	Mercury-free Products Approved for Purchase
Issue date	3/2021
Replaces	2/2020
Reviewed by	J. Aginş Sustainability Manager
•	F. Alvarez, RED+F Design
	J. Burke, NYULHLI, Facility & Plant Management
	M. Ciferri, NYULH-B, Facilities
	E. Cintron, Real Estate
	E. Cohen, Clinical Ambulatory Operations, Faculty Group Practice
	R. Cohen, Facilities
	G. DeCao, Strategic Sourcing
	N. Ejaz, NYULH-B Safety Officer

### Mercury -containing Items used in labs

This list is not complete. For additional information, equest that vendors disclose mercury concentration on a Certificate of Analysis.

- 4 Acetic acid
- 4 Ammonium reagent/Stone analysis kit
- 4 Antibody test kits
- 4 Antigens
- 4 Antiserums
- 4 Buffers
- 4 Calibration kits
- 4 Calibrators
- 4 Chloride
- 4 Diluents
- 4 Enzyme Immunoassay test kits
- 4 Enzyme tracers
- 4 Ethanol
- 4 Extraction enzymes
- 4 Fixatives
- 4 Hematology reagents
- 4 Hormones
- 4 Immunoelectrophoresis reagents
- 4 Immunofixationphoresis reagents
- 4 Immu-sal
- 4 Liquid substrate concentent
- 4 Negative control kits
- 4 Phenobarbital reagent
- 4 Phenytoin reagent
- 4 Positive control kits
- 4 Potassium hydroxide
- 4 Pregnancy test kits
- 4 Rabbit serum
- 4 Shigella bacteria
- 4 Sodium hypochlorite
- 4 Stains
- 4 Standards
- 4 Sulfuric acid
- 4 Thimerosal
- 4 Tracer kits
- 4 Urine analysis reagents
- 4 Wash solutions

Reviewed: January 29, 2020