

Working with Particularly Hazardous Substances

Do you know what formaldehyde, methylene chloride, acrylamide, and sodium azide all have in common? They all meet one or more of the criteria of a *Particularly Hazardous Substance* as defined by OSHA's Laboratory Standard. OSHA identifies three categories of chemicals that require special precautions under this provision – select carcinogens, reproductive toxins, and substances with a high degree of acute toxicity. Anyone who handles chemicals which fall into these categories must ensure that they are following the requirements in the [Yale EHS SOP for Particularly Hazardous Substances](#), which includes:

- wearing appropriate personal protective equipment, which at a minimum includes safety glasses, exam style nitrile gloves and a lab coat.
- handling these chemicals inside a fume hood or using locally exhausted ventilation.
- performing procedures in clearly identified designated areas only. Designated areas must be identified using the label shown below. Laboratories which have multiple designated areas, such as multiple fume hoods, may identify the entire lab as a designated area. In those situations, the door information sign must have the appropriate health hazard or acutely toxic hazard pictogram displayed on it.
- decontaminating the work surfaces after each use.
- disposing of waste properly as hazardous waste as outlined in the [Management of Hazardous Waste Procedure](#).

Please take the time to review the SOP for these materials. EHS Safety Advisors will be providing the labels below to laboratories during lab surveys. [Contact your Safety Advisor](#) if you have any questions.

WARNING

Particularly Hazardous Substances (PHS)

DESIGNATED AREA

for select carcinogens, reproductive toxins, and
high acute toxicity chemicals

AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY

This area must be decontaminated after each use of a PHS

Scan the QR code for the PHS SOP

Yale Environmental Health & Safety



Information for New PIs and Lab Managers

Yale Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) has consolidated critical help information for new principal investigators and new lab managers on our website at ehs.yale.edu/new-pi.

EHS safety sections have assembled key documents, help guides, and relevant links to help new PIs and lab managers navigate their responsibilities and requirements. Our vision was to make this important information easy to find, provide lab leaders with resources to help protect their researchers, and clearly articulate compliance requirements for state and federal laws along with applicable university policies.

Although this was designed with new PIs and lab managers in mind, we hope that everyone can benefit from this focused collection of helpful information.

Injury Reporting Requirements

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has specific time reporting requirements for severe work-related injuries including fatalities, inpatient hospitalizations for treatment, an amputation, or the loss of an eye. Timely reporting is required (in as little as eight hours depending on the injury). Please note the following for severe injuries.



1. Call 911 if it is a medical emergency.
2. Follow appropriate initial response procedures if trained and qualified to do so. View the [EHS procedures](#) for reference.
3. Ensure the employee's supervisor is promptly informed of the incident.
4. Contact Yale EHS (203-785-3555) if 911 was called and/or if the incident involves a fatality, hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
5. If the injured person is an employee, contact The Office of Worker's compensation via [email](#) to let them know, and [report the claim](#) to the claims administration company.
6. If the injured person is a visitor or student, report the incident to the Office of Risk Management via [email](#) to let them know, and [report the claim](#) to the claims administration company.
7. Contact Yale EHS with any questions (203-785-3550), ehs@yale.edu, or your [Safety Advisor](#).

Indiana University Faces Export Control Violation for Transgenic Fruit Flies

Indiana University (IU) recently submitted a voluntary disclosure regarding a significant export control violation. The issue arose from shipments of fruit flies genetically modified with transgenes of the Ricin A toxin. These shipments, which should have been classified under export control category 1C353, were mistakenly sent out without the correct classification, resulting in 42 shipments being made improperly. The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) has imposed serious consequences. Specifically, IU faces a denial of export privileges for items classified under 1C351, 1C353, and 1C354. However, this denial is currently suspended, contingent upon IU meeting several compliance requirements and avoiding any further export violations over the next year. The official documents related to these violations are available on the [BIS website](#). This incident highlights the critical importance of strict adherence to export control regulations within academic research settings. It serves as a valuable reminder for all research institutions and laboratories to ensure proper classification and compliance in all shipments of research materials. To learn more about exporting research materials from Yale University visit the [Exporting Research Materials](#) webpage.

Yale University Hotline

Speak up! Yale community members are strongly encouraged to raise concerns about compliance, integrity, ethics, or other violations of Yale policy —without fear of retaliation. There are multiple ways to raise your concerns in either an anonymous or identified way, including the University Hotline. Report online at your.yale.edu/hotline.



Wear Your PPE...Even in Warm Weather

Summer is often the time of year when laboratory attire requirements are challenging to follow. Please remember that even though it is warm outside, you must still wear the appropriate attire to enter a Yale laboratory.

This includes wearing long pants or clothing to the ankles, lab coat, safety glasses, gloves, and closed-toe, solid top shoes. Shorts, short skirts, sandals and other types of warm-weather clothing are not allowed in laboratories. Consider leaving lab appropriate clothing and shoes in the lab to change into when you arrive and change out of when you leave. Additional information on laboratory attire requirements, which includes the use of PPE, can be found in [Yale University's Selection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment and Attire in Laboratories](#).