

University Hospital Safety Update
10/2011

Please Refer to Safety Committee Information Compendium (right column):
pathinformatics.com

Battery Disposal:

Alkaline batteries (A, AA, AAA, C and 9 volt, etc.) may be tossed in the basic trash however please put tape over all the terminals. The reason for the tape is to prevent the terminals from touching in the event two batteries is in the same trash. A recent event happened in which two 9 volt batteries terminals were touching in the trash and started a fire. All non-alkaline batteries must be picked up by engineering services to be disposed up properly. Please see attached poster for more details.

Fire rated doors:

If a door is fire rated it must NEVER be propped open. How to know if a door is fire rated is it will have a metal plaque on the inside hinge edge stating it is fire rated.

New Sharps containers:

If you have any of the old sharps containers Tom Davis can swap them out for the new sharps containers.

Severe Weather Policy:

The hospital web site for policy and procedures is located at <https://pnp.uch.edu/> most of the policies in which we need to be familiar with is under the disaster plans tab (ex severe weather plan, fire plan, plan D etc.)

Eye Wash Stations:

Eye wash stations is a huge focus for Joint Commission inspections so just make sure preventive maintenance is being done and all the eye wash stations are operable. If anyone want an eye wash station installed, Pat Conroy ask that he be notified first and he will do a risk assessment. Soon Pat Conroy will be offering training on eye wash stations. I have attached some eye wash information and his power point on this.

Holiday Season Decorations:

The must be 18 inches clearance from ceiling. Absolutely nothing within 18 inches of the ceiling for fire sprinkler clearance. We need fire sprinklers to be 100% operable in the event of a fire.

This is the number one or most common deficiency that Pat Conroy has found on hazardous surveillance inspections.

Tube System:

No needles in the tube system. If the system becomes contaminated the whole thing must be taken down and decontaminated.

Construction:

Soon all above ceiling work done by contractors must have a permit. Pat Conroy just ask we keep an eye open and if anything looks suspicious we should contact him (Pat).

Storage of O2 tanks:

There is special requirement for anyone storing more than 12 oxygen tanks. I do not believe this is an issue in Pathology so that's all I will say about this.

MSDS Program/ Chemical Inventory:

There is a new automated way of keeping track of chemical inventory. It will be live time and online. The web site is www.msds-source.com. since most of the chemical inventory is in Histology and Cytology I thought it be logical Donna and I train on how to use the system but eventually all of us will use/learn it. It is all new to me and working on getting a username and password and I learn more I will pass it on.

New Fax Number for Safety Office:

The old fax number to Patrick Conroy and Tom Davis was 8-5505. This has been changed. The new fax number is 8-0446.

New Forms:

We have new fire alarm observation form and chemical waste form with the new fax number.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Zander