Implement a plan and policy

- Empty qualitative and quantitative tests
  Qualitative testing is recommended when rapid results are needed to determine the presence or absence of an HD. Quantitative tests provide an actual amount of the detected HD, but results may take weeks to receive.

- Report test results
  Laboratories should convey test results in a standard format. Reports should include the name of the HD(s); a description of the location of sample(s); the limits of detection and quantification; data on results over time; and data comparing results of different clients.

- Conduct further research on HD surface contamination
  Comparative analyses of available HD surface contamination monitoring systems and investigations of exposure limits can provide insight into how to improve surface contamination monitoring. Development of a centralised online database for reporting anonymous surface contamination monitoring data would help evaluate current practices.

- Recognise barriers to effective HD contamination monitoring
  Competing priorities for available budget, a lack of clear regulatory standards, and the fear of what a positive contamination result may mean can create barriers to implementing monitoring programmes. Organisations should consider that the costs of inaction may exceed the investment in an effective program.

- Collaborate to emphasize the importance of HD surface contamination monitoring
  Collaboration among stakeholders is key in increasing the scope of HD surface contamination monitoring. Stakeholders are encouraged to disseminate these consensus statements to help drive the implementation of necessary plans and policies.

Practice routine testing and reporting

- Reduce surface contamination with administrative and engineering controls
  Administrative controls include education and training, limiting access to areas containing HDs and the time workers handle HDs. Engineering controls include biological safety cabinets, compounding aseptic containment isolation, and closed-system transfer devices.

- Mitigate HD spills and emphasise a commitment to decontamination
  Develop a plan for the prevention and clean-up of HD spills including who is responsible for clean-up, proper procedures, and information on spill kits. Spills should be documented, and an institutional reporting system should be maintained.

- Implement safety practices throughout the HD handing process
  HD manufacturers should state the hazardous nature of their products on package labels. Healthcare institutions should identify HDs that require safe handling precautions and integrate HD statements into medication workflow systems.

Establish a culture of safe practices

- Continue to seek ways to improve