

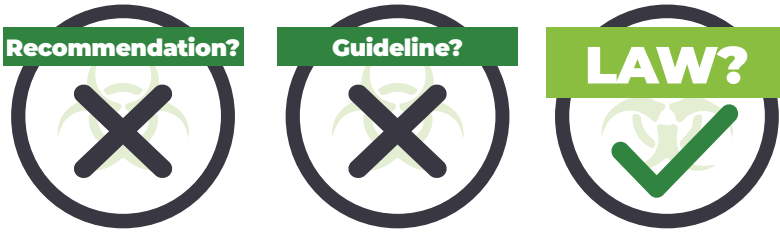
EU strengthens protection of healthcare workers from hazardous substances



Safe Handling of Hazardous Drugs

The amended Carcinogens, Mutagens and Reprotoxic Substances Directive (EU) 2022/431 (CMRD) specifically addresses the safety of healthcare workers¹

Is your health care organisation ready for new EU legislation?



Amending Directive 2022/431/EU must be transposed into national laws by the EU Member States by

APRIL 5th 2024¹

Your employer is responsible for applying the law¹

The CMRD is important for **YOUR** safety – **ACT NOW** to protect yourself and your colleagues

Protect those who protect us

1.8 MILLION workers exposed to hazardous medicinal products (HMPs) in the EU today²

69% of exposed workers are employed in hospitals and clinics²

19% of exposed workers are employed in pharmacies²

40% of exposed workers are nursing professionals²



■ Cancer is now the leading cause of work-related deaths in the EU³

■ Healthcare workers in Europe are potentially exposed to HMPs which are carcinogenic, mutagenic, and reprotoxic⁴

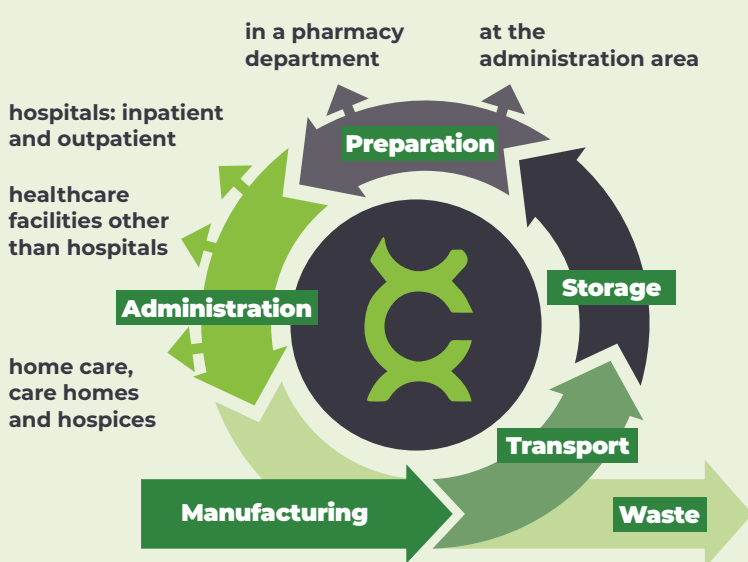
HMPs which contain one or more carcinogens, mutagens or reprotoxic substances now fall under the scope of the CMRD¹

■ Nurses exposed to cytotoxic drugs are twice as likely to miscarry⁵

■ Healthcare workers who handle cytotoxic drugs are more likely to develop malignancy⁶

The hierarchy of controls offers protection throughout the whole lifecycle of HMPs

Creating a safe environment together¹



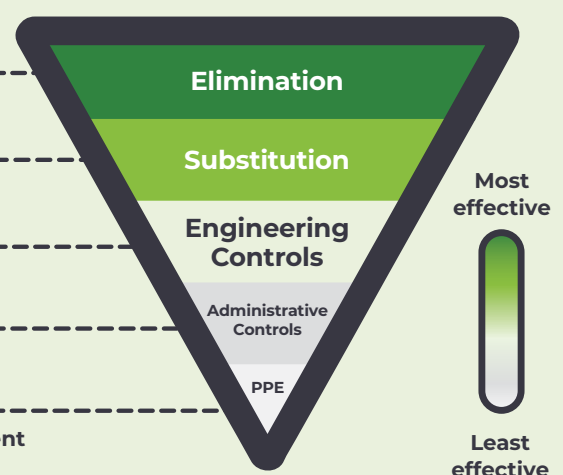
Physically remove the hazard

Replace the hazard

Isolate people from the hazard

Change the way people work

Protect the worker with Personal Protective Equipment



■ Hierarchy of controls can be used to create a safe environment⁷

■ Risk of exposure assessment shall be renewed regularly¹

■ Employers should periodically provide high-quality mandatory training in healthcare settings to all workers who are exposed to HMPs¹

■ Employers should implement surface contamination monitoring protocols to make sure that the controls in place are effective¹

■ If replacement of HMPs is not possible, then a closed technological system should be used¹

■ Employees should undergo regular health surveillance for biological monitoring arranged by their employer¹

■ The EU Commission must identify and list HMPs no later than 5th April 2025¹

This infographic was produced with input from José Manuel Martínez Sesmero, Chief Pharmacist at Hospital Clínico San Carlos (Madrid), and Susanne Cruickshank, Strategic Lead for Applied Health Research at The Royal Marsden NHS Foundation Trust (London)

Access the 2022 CMRD here:



References

¹ Directive (EU) 2022/431 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2022 amending Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks

² European Commission. Study supporting the assessment of different options concerning the protection of workers from exposure to hazardous medicinal products, including cytotoxic medicinal products. 2021.

³ Takala J. Eliminating occupational cancer in Europe and globally. *ETUI*. 2015.

⁴ Lindsley I, Musu T. The ETUI's list of hazardous medicinal products (HMPs). *ETUI*. 2022

⁵ Lawson CC, et al. Occupational exposures among nurses and risk of spontaneous abortion. *Am J Obstet Gynecol* 2012;206(4):327.e1-8.

⁶ Petralia SA, et al. Cancer mortality among women employed in health care occupations in 24 U.S. states, 1984-1993. *Am J Ind Med* 1999;36(1):159-65.

⁷ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Hierarchy of Controls. *The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)*. 2023