

SAFETY TALK



Labeling Potential Hazards in Healthcare Facilities

Health PEI is committed to maintaining a safe work environment and to protect all Healthcare Workers. One critical aspect of maintaining a safe workplace is identifying and labeling potential hazards.



Benefits of Labeling Hazards

Proper labeling of hazards:

- Warns staff of potential dangers, reducing accidents and injuries (slip, trip, and falls)
- Enhances visibility of hazards, especially in low-light areas
- Ensures compliance with regulatory requirements and standards
- Promotes a culture of safety and accountability
- Facilitates efficient evacuation and emergency response



Common Hazards to Label

Critical areas and hazards to focus on:

- Slippery floors (e.g., wet, oily, or icy)
- Blocked doors, corridors, or stairways
- Low lighting areas (e.g., stairwells, storage rooms)
- Unsecured heavy objects or equipment
- Electrical or hazardous materials storage

Health hazard <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcinogen • Mutagenicity • Reproductive toxicity • Respiratory sensitizer • Target organ toxicity • Aspiration toxicity 	Flame <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flammables • Pyrophorics • Self-heating • Emits flammable gas • Self-reactives • Organic peroxides 	Exclamation mark <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irritant (skin and eyes) • Skin sensitizer • Acute toxicity (harmful) • Narcotic effects • Respiratory tract irritant • Hazardous to ozone layer (non-mandatory)
Gas cylinder <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gases under pressure 	Corrosion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skin corrosion / burns • Eye damage • Corrosive to metals 	Exploding bomb <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explosives • Self-reactives • Organic peroxides
Flame over circle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxidizers 	Environment (Non-Mandatory) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic toxicity 	Skull and crossbones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acute toxicity (fatal or toxic)

Sources:
Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS)
Health Canada)
WCB of PEI
SafetyCulture.com

Safety is everyone's responsibility!

DATE: _____
FACILITY: _____

SAFETY TALK LEAD BY: _____
DEPARTMENT: _____

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

WHAT ARE SOME COMMON HAZARDS IN OUR HEALTHCARE FACILITY THAT NEED TO BE LABELLED?

CAN YOU THINK OF A TIME WHEN YOU ENCOUNTERED A HAZARD IN THE WORKPLACE THAT WAS NOT PROPERLY LABELLED?

WHAT STEPS CAN WE TAKE AS A TEAM TO IMPROVE HAZARD LABELLING IN OUR WORKPLACES?

EMPLOYEE CONCERNS & IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT:

EMPLOYEES PRESENT:

FOLLOW UP ON CONCERNS:

If you have any feedback on the Safety Talks program or a suggestion for a Safety Talk, please contact a member of the Wellness & Safety Team or email healthpeihr@ihis.org.

Safety Talks can be found on the Staff Resource Centre at: <https://src.healthpei.ca/safety-talks>