



Waste Elimination

Chemical waste



General instructions

Different kinds of chemical waste are collected separately. Cans have to be filled to 3/4 of their capacity. They must be brought, with the label «Déchets spéciaux», to the Special Waste office.



Neutral aqueous solutions (pH 6-8)

- Diluted aqueous solutions (neutral pH or weakly acid) containing toxic chemicals are stored in cans.
- buffer solutions containing traces of Ethidium Bromide
- Formol solutions 4-10%
- staining solutions (histology, microscopy, etc.)
- solutions containing a low proportion of solvents (methanol 15%, etc.)
- solutions containing heavy metals (Cr, Pb, Hg, etc.)



Acidic or basic aqueous solutions

- Acidic or basic aqueous solutions (pH below 6,5 or above 9,0) are collected separately.
- acidic or basic solutions
- solutions with a small proportion of solvents (méthanol 15%, etc.)
- solutions containing heavy metals (Cr, Pb, Hg, etc.)



Chlorinated and non-chlorinated solvents

- Solvents are separated from aqueous solutions and non-chlorinated solvents (alcool xylène, ether, acétone, etc.) are separated from chlorinated solvents (chloroforme, chlorure de méthylène, etc.).
- Chlorinated solvents of a volume superior to 1 liter are conditioned separately.



Photochemical reagents

- Waste derived from photochemical reagents must be collected in a red can or in any rinsed can/bottle.
- developer
- fixing solution
- photographic bath
- rinsing water



Varied chemicals

- Chemical compounds of various nature have to be collected separately.
- bottles of solvents, of acids and bases and other reagents
- powders and other solid substances
- Vials containing liquids
- laboratory glassware and contaminated materiel
- identified substances in their original containers
- identified substances specially conditioned or resulting from the laboratory's activities
- heavy metals (elemental form, salts and solutions, mercury thermometers, etc.)
- degraded substances, useless or too dangerous
- contaminated material, gloves, paper, silica gel, absorbants
- vacuum pumps and oil from baths
- unidentified substances



Radioactive waste



General instructions

Wastes are collected separately and sorted by isotope. Organic solvents are separated from aqueous solutions. Solids are separated from liquids.

- Each container has to be labeled with a yellow label «Déchets radioactifs» on which the following informations must be indicated:
 - Isotope
 - Activity (approximate) in MBq (1 mCi = 37 MBq)
 - Physical properties, pH
 - Mention of the other risks, microbiological, toxic, inflammability, etc.
 - Origin: laboratory, name, date



- Solid waste: Plastic buckets with sealed cap



- Liquid waste: Blue cans or buckets after cleaning. Cans must be filled below 3/4 of their capacity.



Sharp waste

- Edge tools, pointed or sharp (needles, scalpels, etc.), even if contaminated by blood or any other biological liquid, must be collected in the yellow boxes.
- These boxes, labeled as « Déchets spéciaux » must be brought to the special wastes office.



Flesh waste

- Biologically inactive laboratory's flesh waste (P1), without danger for people and environment, must be collected in the appropriate freezer.



Throwing out waste waters

- Liquid waste resulting from laboratory activities must be collected separately and treated as special waste. Must not be thrown in a sink:
 - halogenated solvents, heavy metals, toxic substances, teratogens, etc.
 - radioactive wastes, non inactivated wastes presenting biological risks, etc.
 - substances harmful for the environment
 Do not neglect little quantities!



Easily degradable substances in reasonable quantity are tolerated, as long as they have no notable influence on health and environment (vine, sugar, vinegar, everyday life products, inactivated culture media).

Responsability

- Each collaborator is responsible for eliminating special wastes through their specific channel and for being sure that all the cleaning personnel are not exposed to dangerous substances used or produced in laboratories.

Contact
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