

Laboratory Chemical Waste Compliance

The Problem

To ensure compliance with hazardous and non hazardous waste, the Environmental Health and Safety Department has implemented a program to monitor compliance with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) waste regulations. The EH&S department measures compliance with monthly inspections and analysis of laboratory reports. The program includes:

- EPA hazardous and non-hazardous waste regulations (storage limits, labeling, inspections, training, etc.)
- Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) wastewater discharge regulations
 - o Potential issues with wastewater discharges (waste poured down laboratory sinks)
- All laboratories at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center
- Monthly laboratory inspections and training sessions, regular analysis of compliance reports and on-going guidance and support

Aim/ Goal

The ultimate objective is to achieve and maintain 100% compliance with EPA waste regulations in all laboratories. Over the course of this program compliance has improved from 40-50% to 86-92%.

Team:

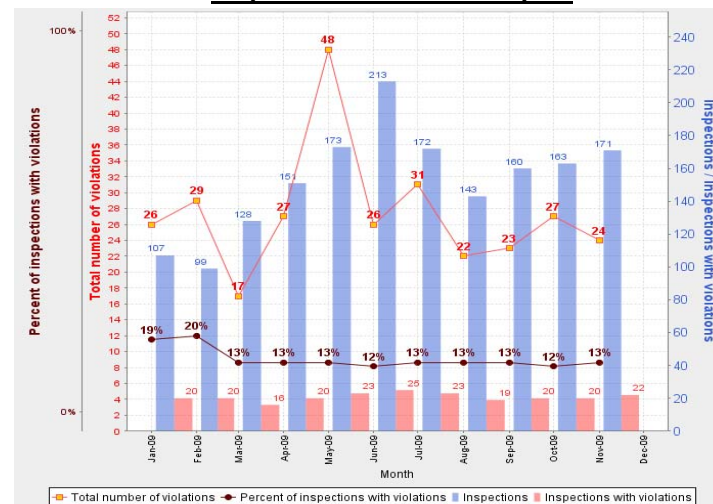
- Mark Resendes, EH&S Manager, EH&S Department
- Dan Dancause, Chemical Hygiene Officer, EH&S Department
- Mike Albert, Senior Chemist, Triumvirate Environmental Inc.

Interventions:

- Initial and on-going education provided by EH&S Department
 - o Monthly Research Chemical Training provided to research personnel
- Monthly lab inspections throughout research and clinical areas
- On-going support
 - o Act as a resource
 - o Response to chemical spills (code orange)
- Program development
 - o Chemical Hygiene Plan

Results:

Inspection Violations Report



2009 (January – November) Statistical Waste Data

Lessons Learned:

- Laboratory relocation yields compliance concerns
- New personnel not familiar with chemical procedures or regulations may cause compliance issues

Next Steps:

- EH&S department provides on-going guidance and support
- Re-training from waste incidents (code orange)
- Notification of laboratory violations
 - o Lab Safety Officers
 - o Principal Investigators



Beth Israel Deaconess
Medical Center



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