



# Unit 2 Safety

## Preventing Accidents & Injuries

Chemical Hazards, Bloodborne Pathogen Standard, and  
Environmental Safety

DHO 8 Chapter 14:2



# Objectives

- 2.1. Describe personal and environmental safety practices.
- b. Apply safety techniques in health care setting in order to prevent accidents and injuries.
- 2.2. identify common safety hazards.
- a. Comply with safety signs, symbols, and labels.
- Recognize Safety Data Sheets and discuss safety implications of handling hazardous materials.



# Preventing Accidents and Injuries

- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (**OSHA**) establishes & enforces safety standards for the workplace.
- 2 main standards that affect health care workers:
  - Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals Standard
  - Bloodborne Pathogen Standard





# Chemical Hazardous

- OSHA requires employers inform employees of all chemicals & hazards in the workplace
- All manufacturers must provide Material Safety Data Sheet (also called Safety Data Sheet) with any hazardous material they sell. **(MSDS or SDS)**
- MSDS contains 16 sections of info & must be readily accessible





# Chemical Hazardous

Some info MSDS must contain:

1. Information about the chemical
2. Protection/precautions to be used
3. Instructions for safe use
4. Procedures for spills, cleanup and disposal
5. First aid care if exposed





# Bloodborne Pathogen Standard

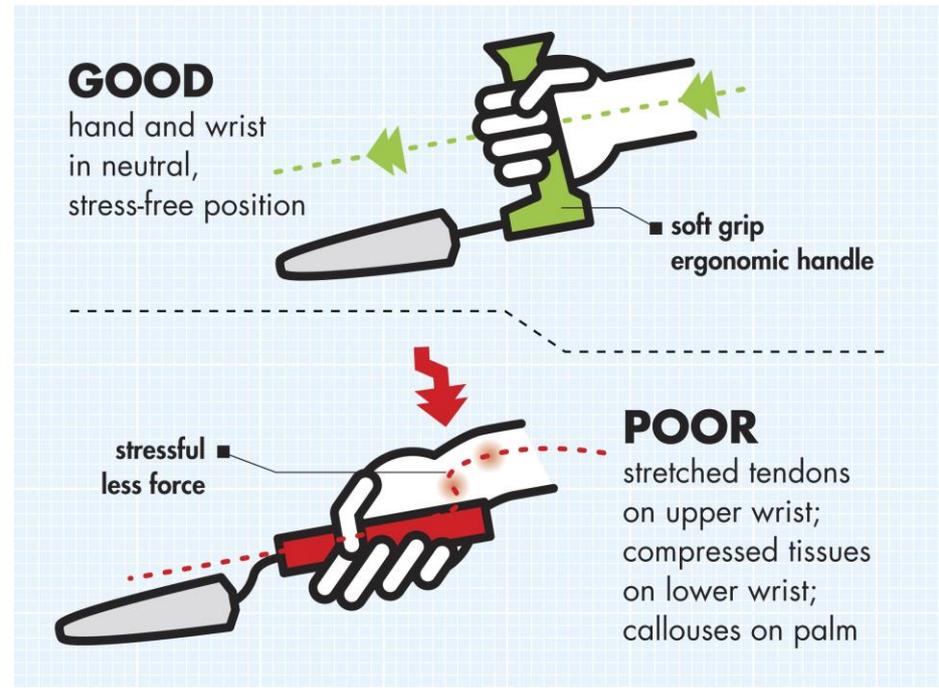
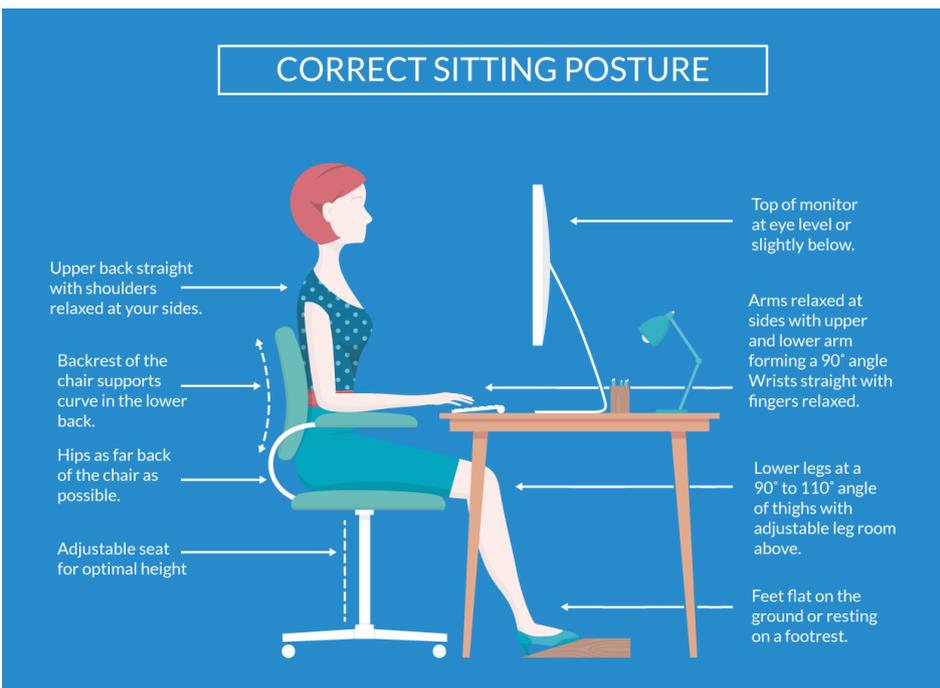
- Protects health care providers from diseases caused by exposure to body fluids (blood, urine, stool, saliva, mucus)
- 3 diseases that can be contracted to body fluids: hepatitis B, hepatitis C, HIV
- Always use **standard precautions** (treat all body fluids like they are potentially infectious)



# Environmental Safety

**Ergonomics**=an applied science used to promote the safety & well being of a person by adapting the environment & using techniques to prevent injuries

► <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rGq7TVOWA60> (3:20)



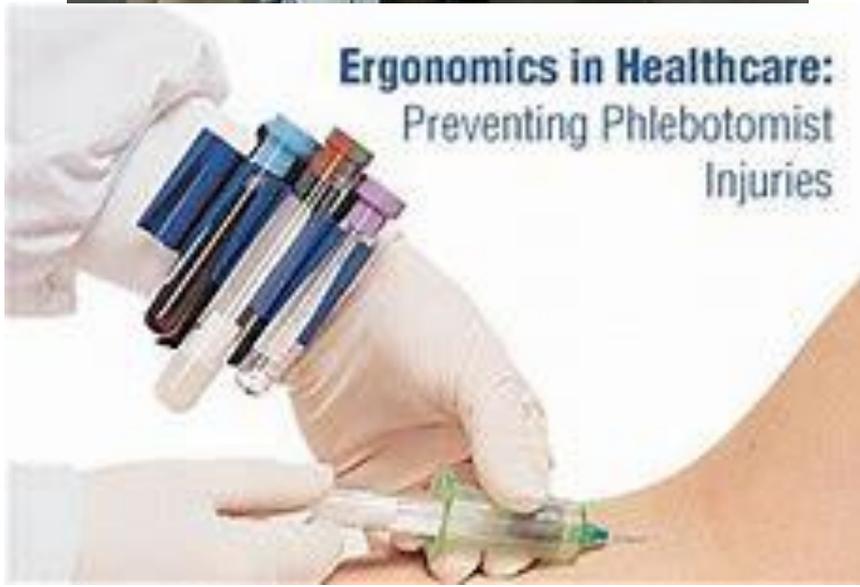


# Environmental Safety



**Ergonomics** includes:

1. Correct placement of furniture & equipment
2. Training in required muscle movements
3. Avoiding repetitive motions
4. Being aware of the environment to prevent injuries
5. Report unsafe situations





# Environmental Safety

Examples of environmental hazards in health care:

- Radiation exposure
- Antineoplastic drugs
- Anesthetic gases
- Improper disposal of biohazardous wastes





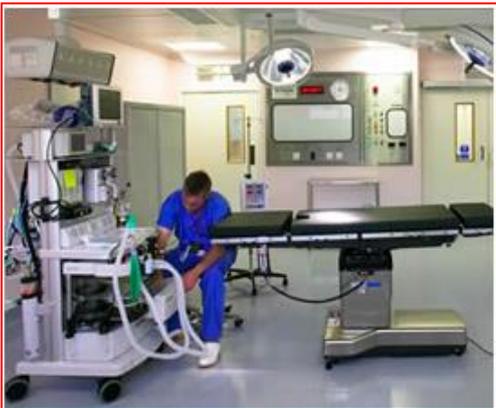
# Equipment and Solutions Safety

- DO NOT operate equipment until you are instructed on its proper use.
- Read and follow operating instructions.
- Report damaged or malfunctioning equipment immediately (can use lockout tag)
- DO NOT use frayed or damaged electrical cords, or a plug with a broken prong.





# Equipment and Solutions Safety



- DO NOT handle electrical equipment with wet hands or around water.
- Store all equipment in its proper place.
- Read MSDS before using chemicals.



# Equipment and Solutions Safety

- DO NOT use solutions in unlabeled bottles.
- Read the label **three** times to assure you are using the correct solution.
- DO NOT mix solutions unless done under proper supervision.





# Equipment and Solutions Safety

- Biohazard=contaminated with blood or body fluids & having the potential to transmit disease (red bag)





# Equipment and Solutions Safety

✓ Wear gloves



✓ Wash hands



✓ Wear mask



✓ Wear eye protection



✓ Wear gown





# Patient/Resident Safety

- DO NOT perform procedures unless instructed to do so.



- Use only correct and approved methods, never shortcuts.



# Patient/Resident Safety

## ➤ Provide patient privacy:

1. Knock before entering the room.
2. Speak to the patient and identify yourself.
3. Ask for permission to go around a privacy curtain.
4. Provide privacy before beginning a procedure.





# Patient/Resident Safety

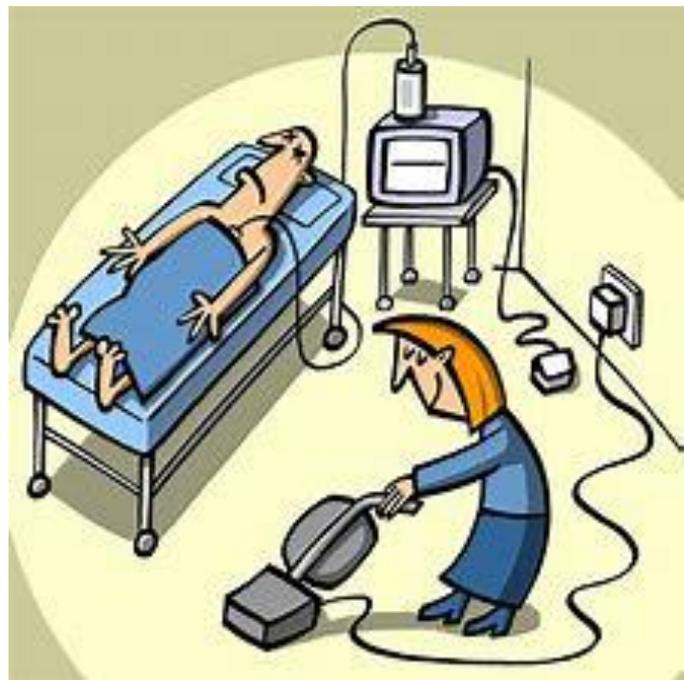
- Identify the patient.
  1. Check the ID band.
  2. Ask the patient to state his or her name.
  3. Repeat the patient's name at least twice.
- Explain what you are going to do.
- Never perform a procedure if the patient refuses.





# Patient/Resident Safety

- Be alert to the patient's condition at all times, and report any changes.
- Be alert to environmental safety hazards.
- Before leaving a patient, be sure:
  1. The bed is at its lowest level, side rails are elevated as needed, and wheels are locked.
  2. The call signal is within reach.
  3. Supplies are within easy reach.
  4. To leave the area neat and clean.





# Personal Safety

- Protect yourself and others from injury.
- Use correct body mechanics.
- Wear the required personal protective equipment (PPE) – gown, mask, gloves, eyewear.
- Walk – DO NOT run!





# Personal Safety

- Immediately report personal injury to your supervisor.
- Report unsafe situations to your supervisor.
- Keep areas clean and neat with everything in the proper place.
- Wash hands frequently.





# Personal Safety

- Keep hands away from face, eyes and mouth.
- Dry hands before touching equipment.
- Use safety glasses when needed.





# Personal Safety

- Avoid horseplay and practical jokes.
- If solutions get in your eyes, flush with water and inform your supervisor.
- If a particle gets in your eye – inform your supervisor and DON'T rub it or try to remove the particle.





# Do You Know?

After ergonomics training, a healthcare worker should know how to:

- A. Prevent injuries in the work environment.
- B. Practice aseptic technique in a specific work setting.
- C. Read and understand Material Safety Data Sheets.
- D. Wear PPE.

The answer is...

**A**



# Do You Know?

You should consult a Material Safety Data Sheet to get information about cleaning up what type of spill?

- A. Blood
- B. Chemical
- C. Food
- D. Bottle of pills

The answer is...

**B**



# Do You Know?

A computer in the medical records section of the hospital has a frayed cord. What should the office manager do?

- A. Replace the cord with a new one.
- B. Wrap the cord with electrical tape.
- C. Report the damage to the manufacturer.
- D. Report the damage to the supervisor.

The answer is...

**D**



# Do You Know?

You are a medical assistant in an office practice and have been asked to get Mrs. James in room 6 to sign a consent form. What should you do FIRST?

- A. Ask Mrs. James to spell her full name for you.
- B. Explain the procedure needing consent before you ask her to sign the form.
- C. Knock on the door before entering the room.
- D. Read the history and physical on Mrs. James' chart.

The answer is...

**C**



# Do You Know?

After caring for a resident in a nursing home, before leaving the room the healthcare worker should:

- A. Check to be sure the bed is in its highest position.
- B. Be sure the wheels on the bed are not locked.
- C. Pull the privacy curtains and place the call bell on the table by the door.
- D. Put the client's phone, tissues and glasses within easy reach.

The answer is...

**D**



# Do You Know?

You are working in a nursing home and have been asked to take Mr. Arnold to recreational therapy in a wheelchair. When you arrive in the room, Mr. Arnold refuses to go. What should you do?

- A. Gently guide Mr. Arnold to sit in the wheelchair.
- B. Explain to Mr. Arnold that if he does not do as you ask, he will never get better.
- C. Ask why and then report Mr. Arnold's refusal to your supervisor.
- D. Have Mr. Arnold sign an "Against Medical Advice" refusal form.

The answer is...

**C**



# Do You Know?

You are cleaning a patient's dentures when some of the soaking solution splashes into your eye. What should you do FIRST?

- A. Flush your eyes with water.
- B. Call 911.
- C. Notify your supervisor.
- D. Complete an incident report.

The answer is...

**A**



# Do You Know?

You are working in a hospital when you hear a patient in a room at the end of the hall call for help. What should you do FIRST?

- A. Run to the room and offer assistance.
- B. Find your supervisor and tell him/her what you heard.
- C. Walk quickly to the room and assess the situation.
- D. Go to the nurse's station, call the room, and offer assistance.

The answer is...

**C**



# Do You Know?

What does this symbol tell a healthcare worker?

- A. This is a poison
- B. Practice standard precautions
- C. Bloodborne pathogen
- D. Biohazardous material

The answer is...

**D**

