



Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

Number: 55-002

Title: Other Hazards: Anaesthetic Gases

Saskatchewan Employment Act:

OHS Regulation: 31-12

Date: January 1, 2017

Date Revised/Reaffirmed: December 2, 2021

Any PRINTED version of this document is only accurate up to the date of printing. Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA), Occupational Health & Safety Services (OHS) cannot guarantee the currency or accuracy of any printed policy. Always refer to the Occupational Health & Safety internal website for the most current versions of documents in effect. This policy complies with legislation (minimum standards) at the time of this writing and/or revision. SHA OHS accepts no responsibility for use of this material by any person or organization not associated with SHA. No part of this document may be reproduced in any form for publication without permission of SHA OHS Services.

Purpose

- To ensure awareness of anaesthetic gases that may require department specific policies and procedures
- To ensure the safe handling and transportation of anaesthetic gases

Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- An effective waste anaesthetic gas scavenging system to collect, remove and dispose of waste anaesthetic gases and vapours
- A ventilation rate of 15 air changes per hour, where reasonably practicable
- Safe work practices and procedures are established to eliminate or reduce the concentration of anaesthetic gases and vapors in the room

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Safe work procedures are written and followed
- Workers are trained in the safe work practices and procedures
- The waste anaesthetic gas scavenging system and the equipment used to administer anaesthetic gases are maintained

Worker must ensure:

- They are trained in and follow the safe work procedures
- They are trained in and use any PPE required (selection, use, care and handling)
- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System/Incident Report Line any incidents or near misses
- They inspect all anaesthetic gas equipment for leakage before each use and at least weekly

Orientation & Training

- Site specific training on safe work procedures for handling anaesthetic gases

Materials

- Appropriate PPE if required

Non-Compliance/Breach:

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

June 4, 2018

December 2, 2021