

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & RISK ASSESSMENT

LAB SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

RISK ASSESSMENTS ARE CRUCIAL FOR CONDUCTING RESEARCH PROJECTS SAFELY. THE PROCESS OF IDENTIFYING HAZARDS, DETERMINING THE SEVERITY OF POTENTIAL RISKS AND ESTABLISHING SUITABLE CONTROL MEASURES IN PLACE ARE KEY COMPONENTS TO KEEP THE PITT COMMUNITY SAFE.

- Risk assessments of planned research should be undertaken before proceeding with research activities.
- Reviewing Safety Data Sheets (SDS), scheduling consultation with the EHS staff and discussing the work projects are important in determining the risks and how to address and control them.
- Risk assessments should be revised periodically. They should additionally be revised with any changes to the research experiment, like introducing new chemicals or adding steps to the process, new equipment, change in a concentration of already assessed chemical, etc.
- To minimize risks, the hierarchy of controls is used, sequentially done by elimination, substitution engineering controls, administrative controls and PPE. EHS helps with establishing the hierarchy of controls. Contact the EHS office to schedule a consultation.



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