Guidance for the safe management of hazardous medicinal products at work, including cytotoxics

1st Meeting of the Steering Committe 18th March 2022

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Origin of the project

- The EU strategic framework on health and safety at work 2021-2027 points out that the European Parliament and stakeholders have stressed the need to protect healthcare staff exposed to hazardous medicinal products as well as other risks.
- The European Commission and EU-OSHA have already launched extensive studies and dialogues with experts and stakeholders on how to address these risks as part of efficient healthcare provision.
- This has revealed a great need for further training, instruction and guidance.
- Guidance is a flexible tool that can be updated in line with the dynamics of treatment and medicine development.

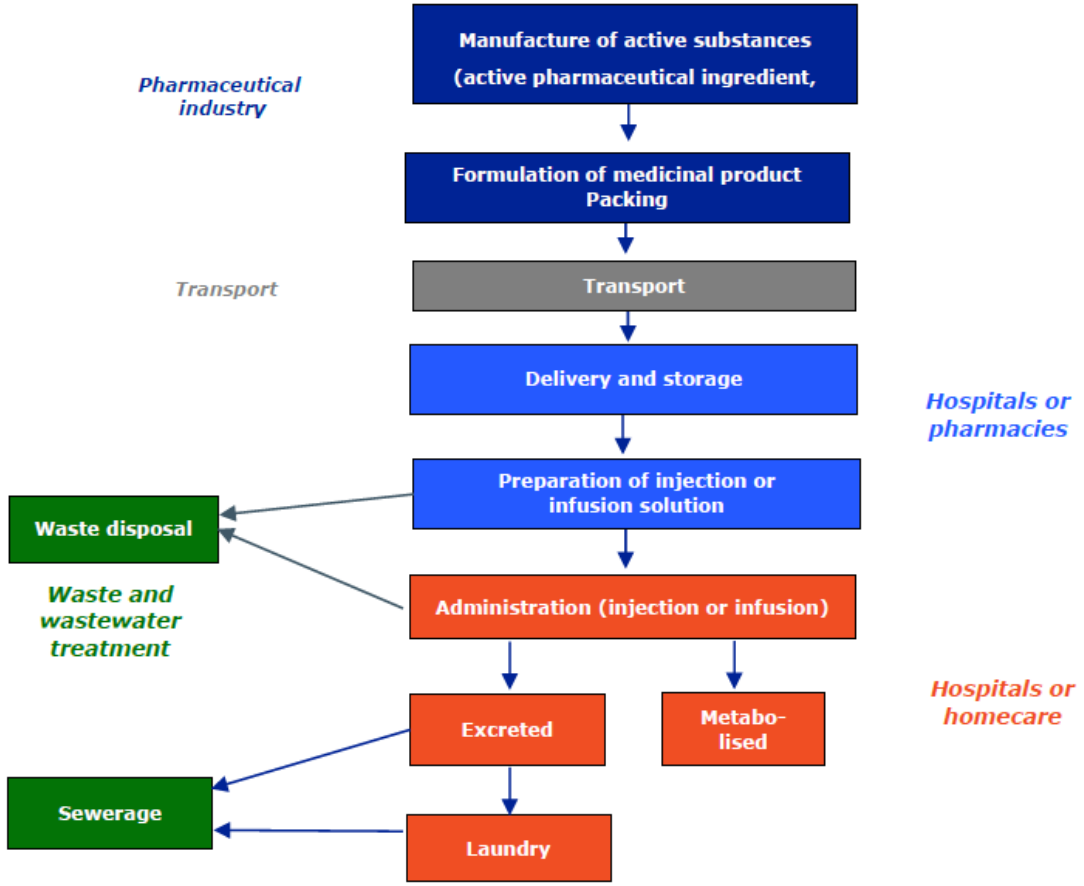
Objectives and scope of the guidance

- Ensure better protection for workers handling HMPs.
- Increase awareness amongst the stakeholders and target groups.
- Provide a useful reference point for the different stakeholders and target groups thus improving the training activities.
- Reduce inequalities whereby stakeholders and target groups in some Member States and sectors have access to better guidance.
- Reduce the fragmentation of the existing guidance landscape.
- Provide a flexible tool that can be updated in the future to reflect the recent developments.

Objectives and scope of the guidance

- The document shall set out and provide practical guidance for the use of HMPs by the following stakeholders and target groups:
  - employers
  - workers
  - occupational health and safety services and experts
  - personal training managers
  - and others concerned with advice on the safe management of HMPs at work.

Objectives and scope of the guidance



Key characteristics of the guidance

- Existing studies and guidelines inside and outside the European Union will be taken into account.
- The consultation and involvement of the relevant stakeholders, such as social partners in the healthcare, in the development of guidance is key to the acceptance of the final document.
- The draft guidance will be structured in a modular form according to the different stages of the supply chain of HMPs.
- It will be easy to use in particular for SMEs and self-employed workers.
- The guidance will be based on didactic principles so as to facilitate its use by non-specialists.

Follow-up of the project

- The guidance will be discussed, and adapted following suggestions and contributions made by the Steering Committee and the Commission unit EMPL C/2 .

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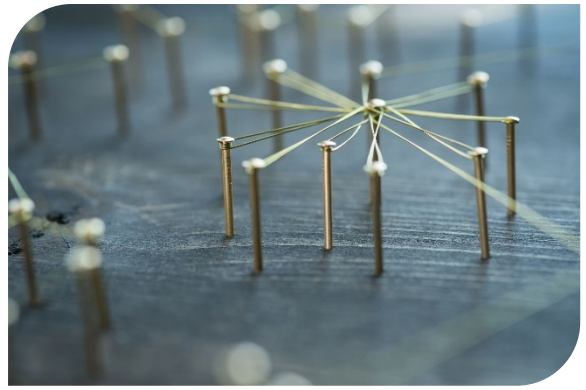

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Thank you

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