Chemicals

Introduction

Chemical minimization programs are an important part of any sustainability program. The use of certain chemical constituents in products and materials can have significant health repercussions for building occupants, patients, staff, and the community. Likewise, the emissions and effluent from the manufacturing and disposal of products and materials can also impact health and the environment--with a disproportionate impact on communities of color. Please use this section of the application to highlight how the facility is addressing the use and minimization/elimination of certain **chemicals of concern**.

Policy

1.* Does the facility have **chemical or purchasing policies** that identify and avoid **specific chemicals of concern** contained in products and materials that may be hazardous to human health and the environment?

Yes

1.a* Please attach chemical or purchasing policies that address **chemicals of concern**:

Multiple policies can be attached via **zip file**, if necessary.

1.b* Please check all **chemicals and materials** included in the policy.

(Please note that other environmental attributes, such as water, energy, and packaging are evaluated in the EPP portion of this application.)

- [ ] Bisphenol A and its structural analogues
- [ ] CA Proposition 65 listed chemicals (carcinogens and reproductive toxicants)
- [ ] Flame retardants, including chlorinated, brominated, and phosphate-based flame retardants
- [ ] Formaldehyde
- [ ] Latex
- [ ] Lead
- [ ] Mercury
- [ ] Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic substances (PBTs)
- [ ] Per and poly-fluorinated compounds (PFAS)
- [ ] Phthalates (DEHP, BBP, DnHP, DIDP, DBP, DINP, and DiBP)
- [ ] Polystyrene
- [ ] Polyvinyl chloride, or PVC
- [ ] Triclocarban
- [ ] Triclosan
- [ ] Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- [x] Other prioritized chemical or material (#1)
- [x] Other prioritized chemical or material (#2)
- [x] Other prioritized chemical or material (#3)

1.b.a* Other prioritized chemical or material (#1)

1.b.b* Other prioritized chemical or material (#2)

1.b.c* Other prioritized chemical or material (#3)

Green Cleaning

2. Does the facility contract with an outside vendor for environmental services (EVS)?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

2.a Please indicate the facility's contracted vendor for environmental services:

- ( ) Aramark
- ( ) Crothall
- ( ) Sodexo
- (●) Other

2.a.a If other contracted vendor, please indicate which company:

3.* Has the facility conducted an inventory **in the last 18 months** of all products used at the facility for cleaning and disinfection of surfaces?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

Conducting an inventory can identify where the hospital may be using multiple products for the same purpose in different areas of the institution. Standardization of cleaning and disinfection products can lower costs and improve training effectiveness and safety.

4.* Is the facility actively working on the transition to **third-party certified green cleaning chemicals** in alignment with Practice Greenhealth's **Green Cleaning Goal**?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

*The facility should not respond yes to this question unless it has specifically tasked a person/team with this product(s) transition. For more comprehensive guidance about selecting green cleaning chemicals, see Practice Greenhealth's **green cleaning resources**.

5.* Does the facility utilize any **Green Seal** or **UL Ecologo** certified cleaning products?

Yes

Please document **ALL** dollars spent on cleaning chemicals at your organization during 2021. For each type of cleaning product your organization selects below, a table will appear in which you need to enter **two numbers**--a value for green chemical spend and a value for conventional chemical spend on that particular product category. The table will **autocalculate** your total cleaning chemical spend and your % green spend for each category. If you are using 100% green certified chemicals for a product category, you **MUST** enter a zero for conventional cleaning chemicals for that same category in the table. If you are using 100% conventional cleaning chemicals for a product category, you **MUST** enter a zero for green cleaning chemical spend. No points will be awarded for rows with **incomplete information**.

Practice Greenhealth defines a green cleaning chemical as a cleaning product that is certified under either a GreenSeal or UL **Ecologo** standard. If you are unsure if your product is certified under either a **Green Seal** or UL **Ecologo** standard, take a moment to confirm at:
Green Seal
UL Ecologo

If your facility is using a **one-step disinfectant** cleaner instead of one of the cleaning products indicated below, please place a check next to the product category and enter the one-step disinfectant spend as conventional spend. In the U.S., EPA-registered hospital disinfectants are not yet allowed to be labeled or certified as green, because they are regulated as **antimicrobial pesticides under FIFRA**. The one-step disinfectant cleaner issue will be reviewed in a focus group with health care representation in advance of the 2023 awards cycle (a content update year).

5.a* Please select **ALL** cleaning product categories used at the facility. (You must include both conventional and green-certified product categories.)

- [x] General purpose (hard surface) cleaners
- [x] Window/glass cleaners
- [x] Carpet and upholstery cleaners
- [x] Bathroom/restroom cleaners
- [x] Floor cleaners
- [x] Floor strippers
- [x] Floor finishes
- [x] Laundry soaps/cleaners
- [x] Liquid dish soap
- [x] Other
- [x] We use a one-step disinfectant cleaner instead of one of the above product categories.

For any product category that has been replaced by a one-step disinfectant cleaner, please select the product category and enter spend as conventional spend. See instructions above.

General purpose cleaners

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
General purpose cleaning chemicals	5.a.a*	5.a.b*	5.a.c* 0	5.a.d* 0

Window/glass cleaners

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Window/glass cleaners	5.a.e*	5.a.f*	5.a.g* 0	5.a.h* 0

Carpet and upholstery cleaners

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Carpet cleaners	5.a.i*	5.a.j*	5.a.k* 0	5.a.l* 0

Bathroom/restroom cleaners

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Bathroom/restroom cleaners	5.a.m*	5.a.n*	5.a.o* 0	5.a.p* 0

Floor cleaners

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Floor cleaners	5.a.q*	5.a.r*	5.a.s* 0	5.a.t* 0

Floor strippers

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Floor strippers	5.a.u*	5.a.v*	5.a.w* 0	5.a.x* 0

Floor finishes

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Floor finishes	5.a.y*	5.a.z*	5.a.aa* 0	5.a.ab* 0

Laundry soap

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Laundry soap	5.a.ac*	5.a.ad*	5.a.ae* 0	5.a.af* 0

Liquid dish soap

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Liquid dish soap	5.a.ag*	5.a.ah*	5.a.ai* 0	5.a.aj* 0

Other

Procurement type	$ spent on green cleaning chemicals	$ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) Spent on Cleaning Products	% Green spend of total
Other	5.a.ak*	5.a.al*	5.a.am* 0	5.a.an* 0

5.a.ao* Please indicate which cleaning products or categories (general purpose, bathroom etc.) were replaced with a **one-step disinfectant cleaner**?

5.a.ap* Please list the **brand and product name** of one-step disinfectant cleaners being used. (Optional)

Percent Green Spend on Cleaning Products

The measured metric for green cleaning is the **Total Percent Green Spend on 5 Target Cleaning Chemicals** which includes: general purpose cleaners, window/glass cleaners, bathroom/restroom cleaners, carpet cleaners and floor cleaners. Points are awarded for providing data for other cleaning chemical types but only these 5 categories of cleaning chemicals **will count toward the measured metric**. Please ensure the facility provides cleaning chemical spend (both green certified and conventional) for as many types of products as the facility is using--but at least these 5.

Total Percent Green Spend on 5 Target Cleaning Chemical Categories (This is the measured metric for green cleaning.)

Procurement type	Total $ spent on 5 target green cleaning chemicals	Total $ spent on conventional cleaners	Total ($) spent on 5 target cleaning chemicals	% Green spend for 5 target cleaning chemicals
Total Spend	5.b* 0	5.c* 0	5.d* 0	5.e* 0

*The five target cleaning chemicals that are part of the measured metric for green cleaning are: **general purpose cleaners, bathroom/restroom cleaners, window/glass cleaners, carpet cleaners and floor cleaners.**

Overall Percent Green Spend on Cleaning Chemicals

Procurement type	Overall $ spent on green cleaning chemicals	Overall $ spent on conventional cleaners	Overall ($) Spent on all Cleaning Products	Overall % Green spend
Total Spend	5.f* 0	5.g* 0	5.h* 0	5.i* 0

5.j* Has the facility realized any **cost-savings** in 2021 from its use of third-party certified green cleaning chemicals or green cleaning practices?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

5.j.a* Please indicate any **tracked financial savings (in $)** from the use of third-party certified green cleaning chemicals or green cleaning practices:

5.j.b* Please describe how those financial savings were derived:

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought challenges and changes to the cleaning and disinfecting of health care facilities. The following questions will allow Practice Greenhealth to better understand and track these changes.

6.* Has the facility **expanded its use of disinfectants/one-step disinfectant cleaners** for environmental cleaning as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

6.a* Please indicate **in which areas** these changes were made: (Please select all that apply.)

- [ ] All patient care areas
- [ ] Some patient care areas
- [ ] Food services
- [ ] Administrative areas
- [ ] Everywhere
- [ ] Other

7.* Please describe any other **changes to cleaning and disinfection protocols** a result of the COVID-19 pandemic:

8.* Is any consideration given to the **sustainability attributes of disinfectants/one-step disinfectant cleaners** during the product selection process?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

Note: Sustainability attributes could include the worker health and safety impacts for cleaning or nursing staff, or the impact on the environment through manufacture or disposal. These considerations are separate and distinct from efficacy considerations (kill claims for various pathogens).

8.a* Please describe any consideration given to the **sustainability attributes of disinfectants/one-step disinfectant cleaners** during the selection process:

9.* Has the facility replaced any cleaning product types with a **chemical-free** method, such as ionized water or ozone?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

9.a* What type of chemical-free process are you using? Please check all that apply:

- [ ] Ionized Water
- [ ] Ozone
- [x] Other

9.a.a* Please describe any other chemical-free processes in use:

10.* Does the facility utilize **automatic scrubbing machines** that use **only water** for floor cleaning?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

10.a* Was your facility able to reduce or replace other cleaning chemical use as a result of automatic scrubbing machines?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

11.* Does the facility utilize **ultraviolet germicidal irradiation** (UVGI) technology for surface disinfection in any area of the organization?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

11.a* Please select the clinical areas where this technology is used:

- [ ] All patient rooms
- [ ] Isolation rooms
- [ ] OR
- [x] Other

11.a.a* What other areas is this technology used in:

Integrated Pest Management

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is an approach to managing pests that protects health and the environment. Learn more at: **What is Integrated Pest Management?**

12.* Has the facility **reduced or eliminated** the use of **chemical pesticides** by implementing an IPM program?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

12.a* Please describe IPM program:

13.* Has the facility developed a **written IPM plan/policy** for the facility that includes attention to both indoor and outdoor (buildings and grounds) pest habitats and issues, which focuses on prevention as the primary means of pest management? (see **checklist** for prevention strategies)

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

13.a* Please attach IPM plan or policy:

14.* Does the facility **require EVS** or other relevant staff to be **trained in IPM**? (In particular, are staff trained to monitor and prevent pest problems by spotting conditions that are conducive to pest infestations?)

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

PVC and DEHP

Practice Greenhealth encourages hospitals to reduce or eliminate polyvinyl chloride (**PVC**) and the plasticizer di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (**DEHP**) from clinical products and devices. For more information, see the **FDA Public Health Notification: PVC Devices Containing the Plasticizer DEHP**.

15.* Is the facility actively working to reduce the purchase of medical products containing **PVC** and **DEHP**, in alignment with Practice Greenhealth's **PVC and DEHP Reduction Goal**?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

*The facility should not respond yes to this question unless it has specifically tasked a person/team with this product transition.

15.a* Has the facility encoded this commitment in policy, program, guideline, or purchasing specifications?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

15.a.a* Please attach **PVC**/**DEHP** policy, program, guideline, or purchasing specifications:

16.* Has the facility completely eliminated both **PVC** and **DEHP** from at least **two** product lines?

Yes

Please select the year **both DEHP** and **PVC** were eliminated from an ENTIRE product line. Product lines are categories that can include numerous types of products.

If a particular product line still contains **DEHP or PVC**, but efforts are being made toward elimination, please select "In progress."

For product lines where **DEHP** and **PVC** have been completely eliminated, or are in progress, please list top compliant product name and the manufacturer/supplier.

DEHP-free and PVC-free Product Table

Product Lines	Year DEHP and PVC eliminated	Top product name and corresponding manufacturer/supplier
Breast pumps and accessories	**16.a*** Select an option...	**16.k***
Enteral nutrition products	**16.b***	**16.l***

	Select an option...	
Enteral tubes	**16.c*** Select an option...	**16.m***
General urological	**16.d*** Select an option...	**16.n***
Gloves	**16.e*** Select an option...	**16.o***
Parenteral infusion devices and sets (includes IV tubing and bags)	**16.f*** Select an option...	**16.p***
Respiratory therapy products	**16.g*** Select an option...	**16.q***
Vascular catheters	**16.h*** Select an option...	**16.r***
16.u* **Other product line**	**16.i*** Select an option...	**16.s***
16.v* **Other product line**	**16.j*** Select an option...	**16.t***

DEHP and **PVC**-free Metrics

This is the number of DEHP and PVC-free product lines completed in 2021:	**16.w*** 0
This is the number of DEHP and PVC-free product lines completed in 2020 or earlier:	**16.x*** 0
This is the number of product lines where some progress has been made towards DEHP and PVC-free:	**16.y*** 0
This is the facility's number of DEHP and PVC-free completed product lines out of 8:	**16.z*** 0
This is the facility's **percent of DEHP and PVC-free completed product lines:**	**16.aa*** 0

For more information, see the Practice Greenhealth **PVC and DEHP Elimination Goal** guidance.

Healthy Interiors

17.* Is the facility actively working to purchase furnishings and furniture **that eliminate the use** of all of the following target chemicals: flame retardants, formaldehyde, per and poly-fluorinated compounds (PFAS), **PVC** (vinyl) and antimicrobials, in alignment with Practice Greenhealth's **Healthy Interiors Goal**?

Yes

*The facility should not respond yes to this question unless it has specifically tasked a person/team with these product transitions.

17.a* Please indicate which categories of furnishings and furniture were purchased in 2021 using **conventional** criteria:

- ☐ Beds, mattresses, and pads (table pads, stretcher pads, pediatric pads)

- [ ] Built-in and modular casework
- [ ] Cubicle/privacy curtains
- [ ] Panels and partitions
- [ ] Seating (chairs, stools, sofas, benches, recliners, loungers, etc.)
- [ ] Storage units and shelving (cabinets, filing cabinets, dressers, drawers, bookshelves, built-in shelves, etc.)
- [ ] Systems (multi-component furniture systems)
- [ ] Wall coverings
- [ ] Window coverings
- [ ] Work surfaces (tables, desks, overbed tables, etc.)

17.b* Please indicate which categories of furnishings and furniture were purchased in 2021 that meet **Healthy Interiors** criteria **and/or have the Greenhealth Approved seal**:

- [x] Beds, mattresses, and pads (table pads, stretcher pads, pediatric pads)
- [x] Built-in and modular casework
- [x] Cubicle/privacy curtains
- [x] Panels and partitions
- [x] Seating (chairs, stools, sofas, benches, recliners, loungers, etc.)
- [x] Storage units and shelving (cabinets, filing cabinets, dressers, drawers, bookshelves, built-in shelves, etc.)
- [x] Systems (multi-component furniture systems)
- [x] Wall coverings
- [x] Window coverings
- [x] Work surfaces (tables, desks, overbed tables, etc.)

Learn more about **Healthy Interior-compliant product options**.

Please indicate **last year's Healthy Interiors** compliant and conventional spend on mattresses purchases in the table below:

Table C1. Percent Green Spend on Mattresses

Healthy Interiors compliant spend on mattresses	**17.b.a***
Conventional spend on mattresses	**17.b.b***
Total spend on mattresses in current year	**17.b.c*** 0
% Green spend on mattresses	**17.b.d*** 0

Note:This is not a scored as a metric in 2021.

18.* Please select the facility's primary bed and mattress manufacturer(s):

- [ ] HillRom
- [ ] Stryker
- [x] Other

18.a Please list other manufacturers:

Cubicle and privacy curtains should also meet the **Healthy Interiors criteria**, however there are currently limited options in the marketplace.

19.* What kind(s) of cubicle/privacy curtains does the facility purchase?

- [x] Reusable
- [x] Disposable

19.a* Does the reusable product meet the **Healthy Interiors criteria**?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

19.b* Does the disposable product meet the **Healthy Interiors criteria**?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Percent Spend on Healthy Interiors

Please report dollars spent on furnishings and furniture (including medical and non-medical) **that are Greenhealth Approved and/or that eliminate the use** of **ALL** of the following target chemicals: flame retardants, formaldehyde, per and poly-fluorinated compounds (PFAS), **PVC** (vinyl) and antimicrobials. Please also enter the **total dollars spent on conventional** furnishings and furniture that do NOT avoid **chemicals of concern** to determine **% Green Spend on Healthy Interiors** in Table C2 below. Do NOT include mattress purchases here (please enter in Table C1 above).

Table C2. Percent Green spend on Healthy Interiors

Healthy Interiors % Spend	Dollars ($) Spent
Dollars spent on furnishings and furniture (including medical and non-medical) that eliminate all five target chemicals	**20.***
Dollars spent on conventional furnishings and furniture (including medical and non-medical) that do not avoid all target chemicals of concern	**21.***
Total dollars spend on furnishings and furniture	**22.*** 0
% Spend on Healthy Interiors	**23.*** 0

Healthy Flooring

Flooring can be an important and negative contributor to indoor air quality. Hospitals are increasingly selecting flooring choices that avoid key chemicals and materials of concern. Learn more about Health Care Without Harm's **criteria for healthy flooring**.

24.* Is the facility actively working to select and purchase **healthier flooring** in alignment with Practice Greenhealth's **Healthy Flooring Goal**?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

25.* Did the facility install any new flooring in the past year?

- ◉ Yes
- ○ No

Please report dollars spent on **healthy versus conventional flooring installed in the past year** (carpeting is not included). To qualify as healthy flooring, it must meet the **Healthy Flooring criteria and/or have the Greenhealth Approved seal**. Please break out flooring **material costs only** and report in the first row of Table C3. Practice Greenhealth realizes some spend data may include non-material costs such as flooring preparation and labor costs. If costs for the flooring materials only are not available, **total costs** should be reported in the row 2 of the table. Flooring purchases should not be double counted -- spend should be reported in either row 1 or row 2, but not both.

Table C3. Percent Green Spend on Flooring

% Healthy Flooring	Healthy Flooring compliant spend (silver or gold)	Conventional spend	Total Spend	% Healthy Flooring compliant spend
Flooring Costs (flooring materials only)	**25.a***	**25.b***	**25.c*** 0	**25.d*** 0
Total Installation Costs (flooring and associated costs*)	**25.e***	**25.f***	**25.g*** 0	**25.h*** 0

* Installation Costs (row 2 of table above) may include flooring prep costs or labor--if these line items cannot be broken out.

Note:This is not scored as a metric in 2022.

25.i* **Practice Greenhealth continues to evaluate the best way to measure progress on healthy flooring.**

Is it easier to report green/compliant flooring data by **total square feet** or by **dollar amount** for materials only?

- ○ Square feet
- ○ Dollar spend

26.* Is the facility actively working to select and purchase **healthier carpet** in alignment with Practice Greenhealth's **Healthy Carpet Goal**?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

Mercury

Mercury is potent neurotoxin and can be found as a component in a range of medical devices, lab chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and more.

The **Making Medicine Mercury Free Award** (MMMF) is a one-time Award recognizing the virtual elimination of mercury. If your facility has won the MMMF from Practice Greenhealth (or H2E) in the past, please indicate.

27.* Has the facility previously won the **Making Medicine Mercury Free Award (MMMF)**?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

27.a* Which year was the Award won?

27.b* Does the facility **periodically inventory purchasing practices** to make certain that mercury-containing devices are not purchased and re-entering the facility?

- ( ) Yes
- ( ) No

27.c* Has the facility conducted an **inventory of mercury-containing products** within the institution in **last five years**?

- (●) Yes
- ( ) No

27.c.a* Please describe inventory of mercury-containing products and results:

Other Chemicals Program Successes

Please describe below any other innovative techniques, initiatives, or success stories (not already described above) related to the reduction of **chemicals of concern** in the facility in 2021. Please feel free to provide commentary and/or attach supporting files.

28.* **Chemicals of Concern** Success 1: Please describe

29.* Please attach any additional documentation (optional) for **Chemicals of Concern** Success 1:

30.* **Chemicals of Concern** Success 2: Please describe

31.* Please attach any additional documentation (optional) for **Chemicals of Concern** Success 2:

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