

# GLOBAL HARMONIZATION

## SAFETY IN PRACTICE

The **Hazard Communication Standard** (or employee right to know) is now aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS) to be used worldwide.


**The major changes fall into four general areas:**

- **Chemical Hazard Classification:** Provides specific criteria for classification of health and physical hazards, as well as classification of mixtures
- **Labels:** Chemical manufacturers and importers are required to provide a label that contains a harmonized signal word, a pictogram (picture) and a hazard class and category. Precautionary statements (such as “wash thoroughly after handling”) based upon the hazard’s classification must be provided
- **Safety Data Sheets (SDS):** Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) is now replaced by standardized safety data sheets (SDS). There is now a specified 16-section format that is easier to read
- **Information and Training:** Houston Methodist continues to provide you with information as we educate our staff in various ways about changes that occur. More details can be found at <https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/>

To obtain **Safety Data Sheets (SDS)**: Use the 3E chemical portal under frequently accessed pages on the intranet or call **800.541.8346** (yellow phone stickers).

### *Frequently Accessed Pages*

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