Trends in Healthcare Sustainability

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Practice Greenhealth
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Innovators Roundtable
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Not-for-profit membership organization committed to educate, motivate, and engage healthcare professionals to adopt best environmental practices that increase operational efficiency and support an environmentally sustainable system that improves the health of patients, staff and the community.

Practicegreenhealth.org
Key Drivers for Green Chemistry in Healthcare
Mission-Driven Industry

- 1996: Medical waste incinerators identified as top sources of mercury and dioxin in the environment.
Patients

Caused by Environmental Factors:

- 30% of Childhood Asthma*   
- 10% of Children’s Neurobehavioral Disorders***
- 10% of Diabetes, Parkinson’s Disease and Neuro-developmental Disabilities***
- 5% of Childhood Cancer***

* European Commission  
** National Research Council  
*** Mt. Sinai School of Medicine Center for Children’s Health and the Environment  
**** Environment Canada
**Asthma Cases According to Occupation**

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<th>Occupation</th>
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<th>2%</th>
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<td>Sawmill workers and carpenters</td>
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<td>Workers in printing and graphic arts</td>
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The Lancet, July 2007
Role of Healthcare in Promoting Green Chemistry
Health Care Marketplace

- 17% GDP (20% by 2015)
- 4.1 million employees
- Estimated $200 billion in purchasing annually
71% Have Made Changes in Procurement Process to Increase Purchase of More Sustainable Products
Specific Chemicals

- 88% have a program to reduce Mercury
- 37% have a program to reduce Polyvinyl Chloride Plastic (PVC) and DEHP
- 19% have a program to reduce Brominated Flame Retardants
Group Purchasing Organizations

- 90-95% of hospitals use GPOs
- GPOs - $135 billion annual contracting volume (estimate)
- 80-85% of all healthcare procurement (estimate)
# EPP Business Leadership Coalition

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EPP Specifications and Resources Guide

Wondering what environmental issues or questions you should ask a supplier about a specific product? We make it easy for you. Click on the product areas below for:

- Specifications, RFP Language or Product Specific Environmental Questions.
- Short explanation of environmental issues relevant to that product.
- Referrals to product lists or environmental product certifications.
Goals of Standardized EPP Questions for Medical Products

- Simplify the RFI/RFP burden on suppliers
- Obtain more accurate responses
- Improve the availability of cost-effective and environmentally preferable products and services
- Engage suppliers

www.practicegreenhealth.org/gsc
Standardized Environmental Questions for Medical Products (Version 1.0)

- PVC
- Phthalates
- Bisphenol A and BPA-derived Plastics
- Halogenated Organic Flame Retardants
- Mercury
- Latex
- Hazardous Waste when Disposed
GSC Next Steps: Standardizing Environmental Questions for Electronics (anything that plugs in or has a battery)

Estimated Timeline

- Review and Comment
  - August, 2012 – April, 2013

- Late Summer, 2013
  - Announce environmental questions for electronics
A National Campaign to Improve Environmental Health and Sustainability in the Health Care Sector

www.healthierhospitals.org

Advocate Health Care*
Bon Secours Health System
Catholic Health Initiatives
Dignity Health*
Gundersen Health System
Hospital Corporation of America*
Kaiser Permanente*

Inova Health System*
MedStar Health*
Partners HealthCare*
Stanford University Medical Center
Tenet Healthcare
Vanguard Health Systems
HHI Challenges

- Safer Chemicals
- Smarter Purchasing
- Engaged Leadership
- Healthier Food
- Leaner Energy
- Less Waste

- Green Cleaning
- DEHP/PVC
- Flame Retardants
- Formaldehyde
- Perfluorinated
- PVC
- EPEAT (computers)
Learn what’s POSSIBLE

CleanMed 2014
GLOBAL CENTER FOR HEALTH INNOVATION
Cleveland, Ohio | May 12-14

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