

## Section II: General Chemical Hygiene and Safety: Policies and Recommendations



### GOAL

It is prudent to minimize all chemical exposures. State Occupational Health Standards have established Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) for over 600 chemical agents. These chemicals and their exposure limits are listed in Appendix B. Exposure to these agents must be controlled in such a manner that the workers' exposure shall not exceed the applicable limits. (Reference - Lab Safety Manual **Appendix B**, List of Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs))

Because few laboratory chemicals are without hazards, the following general precautions for handling all laboratory chemicals are presented below. Precautions for handling specific chemicals are contained in **Section IV**.

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### METHODS

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- A. **Basic Rules and Procedures**
- B. **Chemical Procurement, Distribution, and Storage**
- C. **Environmental Monitoring**
- D. **Housekeeping**
- E. **Medical Surveillance**
- F. **Personal Protective Equipment**
- G. **Recordkeeping**
- H. **Signage and Labeling**

- I. Reporting Chemical Spills and Accidents
- J. Training and Information
- K. Hazardous Waste Disposal
- L. Inspections
- M. MSDSs and Other References
- N. Carcinogens in Laboratories