

Workshop: “Practice makes Perfect - safe handling of oncology drugs in a hospital setting”

Ewelina Korczowska, Klaus Meier

Aim:

- To design a structured process for the participant to follow so he/she can build up a clear understanding of the potential for contamination.

Occupational exposure and safe handling of oncology drugs are still major issues of concern for all healthcare professionals. Safe handling programs should be implemented wherever oncology drugs are handled. All employees who come into contact with these agents must be trained. To assess the occupational exposure, wipe sampling can be used to determine the presence of these substances in the workplace. This workshop will focus on surface sampling techniques and we will discuss the importance of monitoring contamination in the workplace.

Outputs:

- Increase knowledge and awareness of safe handling of oncology drugs with an intent to incorporate practices into the daily work;
- Describe and identify the key practice points for monitoring the workplace for cytotoxic contamination;
- Identify key points in the collection of wipe samples from the workplace surface for further analyses; and
- Facilitate discussions on clinical practices and principles that impact on the safe handling of oncology drugs