



Stony Brook Medicine Administrative Policy and Procedures

Subject: EC0074 Environmental Preferable Purchasing	Published Date: 10/02/2019
Management of Environment of Care	Next Review Date: 10/02/2022
Scope: SBM Stony Brook Campus	Original Creation Date: 10/18/2017

Printed copies are for reference only. Please refer to the electronic copy for the latest version.

Responsible Department/Division/Committee:

Procurement

Policy:

Stony Brook University Hospital (SBUH) is committed to the principles of Environmental Preferable Purchasing (EPP) to improve the health of our patients, visitors, staff and community. EPP principles are applied to all major procurement decisions. We evaluate the environmental impacts of products and services in an effort to select healthy, safe, environmentally preferable and sustainable products and services.

Definitions:

Environmental Preferable Purchasing: the purchase of products and services whose environmental impacts have been considered and found to be less damaging to the environment and human health when compared to competing products and services.

Bisphenol-A: a plastic chemical used in a variety of capacities that the National Institute of Health National Toxicology Program believes is hazardous to human reproductive and developmental health.

Carcinogens, mutagens and reproductive toxic chemicals: chemicals that have been shown to cause cancer, a mutation of the genes, or damage to the development or function of reproductive systems.

Chemicals of concern: As per the organization, Practice Greenhealth, these chemicals are frequent targets of monitoring efforts because they persist in the environment, build up in animal/human tissues, and/or are considered to be toxic.

DEHP (di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate): a plasticizer (softener) used to increase the flexibility of polymers like polyvinyl chloride (PVC).

Polyvinyl chloride (PVC): The manufacture and disposal of this material releases dioxin, a known carcinogen, into the environment.

Procedures:

- A. EPP principles are incorporated into the deliberations on commonly used products, especially where more environmentally friendly alternatives are available.
- B. EPP principles may not be the sole factor in determining product selection but are weighed with other quality, service, and total cost components.
- C. General utilization and selection strategy are considered by individual/department purchases. The following elements make an alternative preferable:
 - 1. Use less of it
 - 2. Conserve resources (e.g. use less water, energy, or virgin resources to produce or use, Energy Star rating)
 - 3. Eliminate/reduce waste (e.g. minimal packaging)
 - 4. Reduce toxicity (e.g. non-DEHP, no chlorine)
 - 5. Ability to recycle
 - 6. Comparable functionality and effectiveness
 - 7. Consideration of total cost of ownership* (e.g. unit cost, cost of waste, etc.)
- D. Specific environmental criteria for procurement decisions/selections is to reduce the purchase of products containing:
 - 1. Carcinogens, mutagens, and reproductive toxic chemicals
 - 2. Mercury
 - 3. Phthalates (e.g. plasticizer DEHP (di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate))
 - 4. Polyvinyl chloride (PVC)
 - 5. Latex

6. Other Chemicals of Concern, as listed in the Product Request Application, Section VI, Environmental Sustainability Profile

E. Purchases that are preferable based on environmental criteria are:

1. Building products, materials and furnishings that are approved by National Facilities Services Planning and Standards.
2. Products with high post-consumer recycled content.
3. Readily recycled, re-processed and/or re-used products.
4. Products that have "Take Back" provisions.

F. Whenever possible, we work with and encourage our vendors to promote manufacturing and transportation practices that are environmentally safe and sound. This includes but is not limited to:

1. Products use minimal packaging that is recyclable, non-toxic or bio-based.
2. Products are transported with minimal and/or bio-based packaging.
3. Products are manufactured using the least amount of water and energy and use less water and energy during normal use.
4. The Hospital's Architectural and Engineering Design Specifications have incorporated the "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design" (LEED) to all new Hospital design projects.

Forms: (Ctrl-Click form name to view)

[New Product Request Application](#)

Policy Cross Reference: (Ctrl-Click policy name to view)

[EC0069 Hospital Recycling and Sustainability](#)

Relevant Standards/Codes/Rules/Regulations/Statutes:

None

References and Resources:

[Practice Greenhealth website](#)

Hospital Facilities - Architectural and Engineering Design Specifications