

PURCHASE AND STORAGE OF SCHEDULED POISONS

People commonly use the term 'poison' to describe many different chemicals. These may be dangerous goods, hazardous substances and/or scheduled poisons. See the poster *General chemical storage guidelines for laboratories/studios/workshops* for conditions that may apply in addition to the information given in the table below (www.adm.monash.edu.au/ohse/documents). A poison may exist in more than one schedule depending on factors such as other ingredients in the mixture and concentration in the mixture and can also be a hazardous substance and/or a dangerous good. The following table defines general requirements for scheduled poisons. For more specific information ask your resources manager or safety officer to show you the relevant Poisons Control Plan.

SCHEDULE	EXAMPLES	PERMIT REQUIRED	SUMMARY OF REQUIREMENTS
S1	Dangerous poisons of plant origin	Not in use at the present time	N/A
S2	Pharmacy medicine (medicinal poisons for therapeutic use)	Aspirin, chloroform (for therapeutic external use, when not in S4 and <0.5% of the preparation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store according to <i>General chemical storage guidelines for laboratories/studios/workshops</i> Notify resources manager or safety officer of any thefts or losses
S3	Pharmacist only medicine Drugs of higher potency	Adrenaline (≤ 1%), hydrocortisone (certain low concentrations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store in lockable facility such as cabinet, refrigerator or room and maintain records as described in the relevant Poisons Control Plan Personally ensure delivery to correct person Notify resources manager or safety officer of any thefts or losses
S4	Prescription only medicine (dangerous drugs)	Antibiotics, colchicine, chloroform (for use in anaesthesia), lignocaine (certain concentrations and uses), live animal vaccines (with some exceptions)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store in lockable facility such as cabinet, refrigerator or room and maintain records as described in the relevant Poisons Control Plan Notify resources manager or safety officer of any thefts or losses The licence holder must notify thefts and losses to the police or to the Department of Human Services
S5	Caution (Low potential for harm - domestic poisons)	Acetone, dichlorvos (pest strip applications embedded in resin strip material at < 20%), copper compounds, hydrochloric acid (certain concentrations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store according to <i>General chemical storage guidelines for laboratories/studios/workshops</i> Notify resources manager or safety officer of any thefts or losses
S6	Poison (moderate potential for harm - industrial and agricultural poisons)	Sulphuric acid, aldrin, arsenic (certain concentrations), dichlorvos (liquid preparations of < 50%), ethylene dichloride	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store according to <i>General chemical storage guidelines for laboratories/studios/workshops</i> Notify resources manager or safety officer of any thefts or losses
S7	Dangerous poisons (high potential for harm – special poisons)	Cyanides (except ferricyanides or ferrocyanides), paraquat, strychnine, benzene, bromine, arsenic compounds, chlorine gas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store in lockable facility such as cabinet, refrigerator or room and maintain records as described in the relevant Poisons Control Plan Store separately to other poisons Notify resources manager, safety officer and OHSE of any thefts or losses The licence holder must notify thefts and losses to the police or to the Department of Human Services
S8	Controlled drugs (drugs of addiction)	Cocaine, morphine, pethidine, several barbitones (except when in S4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store in a locked drug safe (steel safe fitting specific requirements, see OHSE) as described in the relevant Poisons Control Plan. Store and transport separately to other poisons Records must contain the following information, in hardcopy form, locked with the poison(s) and must be kept for 3 years: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Date of use – Name, form, strength and quantity of poison – Name and address of person/process where poison is transferred, supplied or administered or disposed of – Name and address of person who supplied the poison – Records must show an accurate balance at the end of each transaction – Records must be kept such that they cannot be altered, obliterated, deleted or removed without detection Conduct quarterly inspections to ensure that amounts are reconciled Notify resources manager, safety officer and OHSE of any thefts or losses or discrepancies in reconciliation of amounts The licence holder must notify thefts and losses to the police or to the Department of Human Services Destruction of Schedule 8 poisons may only be undertaken by at least 2 people of those listed on the relevant Poisons Control Plan
S9	Prohibited substances	Heroin, cannabis (few exceptions), nomorphine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These substances may only be used for special uses for which a permit is required Conditions of purchase, storage and use are stricter than those for Schedule 8 Contact your OHSE Consultant for assistance with the requirements for these substances

1. Required for certain items only (see part 2 of the Poisons Code at www.health.vic.gov.au/dpu/) eg acrylonitrile, arsenic, benzene, cyanides (all as Schedule 7). General information on scheduled poisons may also be found on this webpage.