

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRANSPORT OF HIGHLY POTENT DRUGS


The products having a CMR (carcinogenic, mutagenic and/or reproductive) toxicity such as cytotoxics, antivirals are highly potent drugs and must therefore be handled with caution. For these reasons ESOP recommend pharmacists to include criteria in their calls for tender, aimed at improving security by asking the suppliers to supply the following information:

- Bottle characteristics in order to avoid breakage (plastic for example)
- Procedures used to avoid external contamination (examples: cleaning, outer wrapping, residual levels etc.).

ESOP recommends safe delivery methods according to Quapos guidelines (www.esop.eu) and insist on the following points:

- The delivery must be made secured leakproof sealed cases (not cardboard boxes).
- A separate delivery from the remainder of the order.
- Labelling of the contents is clear from the exterior of the package and consists of :
 - A logo indicating the danger with a warning that can be easily understood even by an untrained person.
 - A text indicating that:
 - All contact must be avoided and the measures to be taken in case of contact;
 - Who to get in touch with in emergency concerning contamination questions;
 - Pregnant and breast-feeding women must in no circumstances handle or come into contact with such products.
 - ! The terms must be simple in order to be understood by everybody.
 - ! The text must be written in the language spoken in the region of the sender and receiver. If the goods cross several language frontiers, the need of adding other languages should be considered.
- Packages with visual signs of damage should be quarantined immediately and the supplier should be contacted. It is not advisable to return damaged cytotoxic vials to the supplier but should be instead be disposed of appropriately.

Label sample

<p>Eviter tout contact avec le produit</p> <p>En cas de contact avec la peau ou les yeux, rincer abondamment avec de l'eau froide uniquement pendant au moins 10 minutes, puis consulter un médecin ou un ophtalmologue sans délai.</p> <p>En cas de casse, ne pas toucher et contacter +.. /..... ..</p> <p>Les femmes enceintes ou qui allaitent ne doivent ni manipuler ni entrer en contact avec ces produits.</p>		<p>Avoid any contact with the product</p> <p>In case of contact with the eyes and/or skin rinse thoroughly with cold water for at least 10 minutes and consult a Doctor or Ophthalmologist immediately.</p> <p>In case of spillage or damage, do not touch and contact immediately +.. /..... ..</p> <p>Any contact with pregnant or breast-feeding women must be avoided.</p>
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ESOP thanks all partners who participate in security improvements.