

# Implementing an HD surface contamination monitoring program

## Recommended surfaces to test in the pharmacy

Environmental contamination with hazardous drugs (HDs) in pharmacies and administration sites poses a serious risk to healthcare workers and their patients.<sup>1,4</sup> Routine monitoring for HDs is recommended for identifying and optimizing safety practices that allow facilities to proactively minimize HD surface contamination and limit exposure.<sup>1,4</sup>

Standards and guidelines have identified several locations in a pharmacy where routine wipe sampling for HD surface contamination might be beneficial.



### Top recommended surfaces

- a. Interiors of biologic safety cabinets or isolators (e.g., central working area, equipment)<sup>12</sup>
- b. Exteriors of biologic safety cabinets or isolators and surrounding areas (e.g., floors)<sup>14</sup>
- c. Work areas and bench tops used for HD preparation and inspection<sup>14</sup>
- d. Door handles<sup>13,4</sup>

### Additional surfaces to consider

- e. Equipment (e.g., tablets, touch pads, scales, intravenous [IV] therapy devices, gloves)<sup>13</sup>
- f. Office equipment (e.g., computer keyboards and mice, label printers, pens, scissors, calculators, disinfectant bottles)<sup>13,4</sup>
- g. Pass-throughs<sup>23</sup>
- h. Areas immediately outside the pharmacy<sup>2</sup>
- i. HD containers (e.g., vials and IV fluid bags)<sup>14</sup>
- j. Waste bins<sup>1</sup>
- k. Drug storage areas (e.g., refrigerators, shelves, cabinets, trays, boxes, transport bins)<sup>13,4</sup>

Interested in implementing an HD surface contamination monitoring program at your facility? BD is ready to partner with your team to help revolutionize the way you monitor for HD surface contamination. We have developed a unique end-to-end program centered on the BD<sup>®</sup> HD Check System that will enable you to set up, customize and sustain your program in just four easy steps. To learn more, speak with your BD representative or visit [bd.com](https://www.bd.com).

**References:** 1. Valero-García S, González-Haba E, Gorgas-Torner MQ, et al. Monitoring contamination of hazardous drug compounding surfaces at hospital pharmacy departments. A consensus statement. Practice guidelines of the Spanish Society of Hospital Pharmacists (SEFH). *Farm Hosp.* 2021;45(2):96-107. 2. United States Pharmacopeia. USP general chapter 800: hazardous drugs—handling in healthcare settings. Revised 2019. Accessed February 2025. <https://www.usp.org/reference-standards/reference-standards-catalog> 3. Gabay M, Johnson P, Faniokos J, et al. Report on 2020 Safe to Touch Consensus Conference on Hazardous Drug Surface Contamination. *Am J Health Syst Pharm.* 2021;78:1568-1575. 4. Domingo T, Fontán G, Enríquez M, et al. *Guía monitorización de superficies de medicamentos peligrosos*. 1. ed. Instituto Español de Investigación Enfermera; Consejo General de Enfermería; 2021.

