

SAFETY ALERT

To:	All laboratory staff and students	Issued: 3 July 2023
		Alert #: 1
Subject:	Poor safety labelling of chemicals	
Purpose:	To advise staff and students on the correct labelling of hazardous chemicals used in laboratories.	

What happened

During recent safety audits it became apparent that chemical containers in laboratories are not labelled as per the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

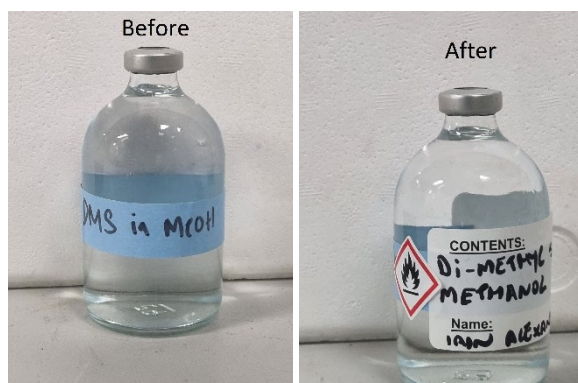
What are the potential risks and harms

GHS labelling communicates critical information about the health, safety or environmental hazards of a chemical as per its safety data sheet (SDS). Potential risks and hazards include burns, inhalation of hazardous gases and long-term illness resulting from not understanding what is in the chemical container.

What we did to minimise the risk



- The chemicals were labelled as per the Globally Harmonised System (GHS) requirements.



Actions to prevent future occurrences

- Staff and students to label chemicals appropriately as per the information in the SDS and GHS.
 - Supervisors to train staff and students on how to label chemicals.
- Further information is available from SafeWork Australia [Labelling Hazardous Chemicals](#) and Codes of Practice for Labelling Hazardous Substances - [NSW QLD](#)

Please contact Workplace Health and Safety: whs@scu.edu.au if you have any questions.