

OSHA Lab Standard Recordkeeping

According to the OSHA laboratory standard, employers must protect their lab employees from exposure to hazardous chemicals in the laboratory. In addition to having a written chemical hygiene plan, laboratory employers must keep records of employee medical examinations and workplace exposure monitoring results.

Per the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.1020, laboratory employee medical examination records, workplace exposure records and any analyses based on these records must be kept for a minimum of 30 years. Likewise, MSDSs or a chemical inventory record must also be retained for 30 years after laboratory use of that chemical ceases. OSHA requires employers to allow employees or their designated representatives access to these records.