



Bureau for Chemical Substances and Preparations

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# Phasing out of mercury sphygmomanometers in Poland

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*Poland*

*Brussels, 18 June 2009*



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## Competent Authorities in Poland

**Inspector for Chemical Substances and Preparations** has become REACH Competent Authority, in order to cooperate with the European Commission, European Chemicals Agency and other EU Member States in the implementation of the REACH Regulation.

**Bureau for Chemical Substances and Preparations** provides all the necessary support for the Inspector in performing his duties under REACH.

- The Bureau is subordinate to the Ministry of Health.
- The Ministry of Health is responsible for drafting legislation.
- Ministry of Economy is responsible for REACH Committee.



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## Polish legislation

**The Directive 2007/51/EC is implemented to polish legislation by Minister of Economy Regulation on amending regulation on restrictions on the marketing and use of certain dangerous substances and preparations (Regulation of 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2008, Dz.U. 08.190.1163).**



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## Polish statement

**Chemicals management should ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment, including the promotion of alternatives for dangerous substances.**

**The mercury poses the risk of appearance the significant possibility of environment contamination.**

**Mercury sfigmomanometers:**

- **the average precision of measurement depends on personnel's experience and their acuteness of hearing;**
- **the results of measurements are not capable of reconstructing.**



## **Alternatives to mercury-containing sphygmomansometers in Poland**

**Aneroid and electronic instruments are reliable substitutes to mercury manometers (simple operation, user does not need to be involved in the measurement process)**

**The use of Riva-Ricci/Korotkoff technique in automatic and non-mercury devices can eliminate the misread error. There is also the possibility to save the results of measurements.**



## Calibration/validation purposes

**The alternatives should be validated.**

**Validation of mechanical sphygmomanometers is done according standard EN 1060-2:2002.**

**Validation of electronic devices is performed according EN 1060-4:2002.**

**The calibration is performed against non-mercury reference manometers which are calibrated by Central Office of Measures every two years.**

**Mechanical sphygmomanometers, designed for diagnosis of hypertension are calibrated in conformity with their instruction for use, mostly by manufacturer's service.**



## **Phasing out the mercury in primary healthcare**

**Polish Government has not conducted an analysis of costs connected with replacement of mercury sphygmomanometers to safer alternatives.**

**The complete replacement of mercury sphygmomanometers by non-mercury alternatives is economically feasible.**

**The complete replacement is expected till 2010.**





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***Thank you for your attention***



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