*Safe Work Practices* Sorting Laundry

**Hazards:** Soiled laundry may be contaminated with body fluids; bending and picking up items may result in lower back injuries or other strains

**Equipment:** Laundry bins, sorting deck

**Personal protective equipment:**

* Fitted uniform (ensure correct trouser length)
* Slip-resistant shoes
* Mask (as needed)
* Gloves (as needed)

**Training required:**

* On-the-job training
* Sharps and bloodborne pathogen training
* WHMIS general training program
* Review proper postures and safe lifting technique

**Legal requirements:** N/A

# Safe work practices

* Ensure that the floor is clean and free of hazards.
* Check that the laundry bin wheels are in good condition and placed correctly to receive soiled linens.
* Position your body facing the sorting deck. Bend your knees — don’t bend your back to reach down.
* Keep an eye out for sharps in laundry.
* Separate linen from terries, such as face cloths and towels.
* Collect bed linens into available laundry bins, ensuring capacity is reached for each bin.
* Be aware of the linen chute and for items coming from this area.