

- ✓ The following are examples of substances used in the Home that can be classified as hazardous and therefore subject to the provisions of the *C.O.S.H.H. Regulations*:
 - ✗ bleaches
 - ✗ disinfectants / antiseptics
 - ✗ aerosol polishes
 - ✗ laundry powders / detergents / washing-up liquids
 - ✗ oven cleaners
 - ✗ drain cleaners
 - ✗ pesticides used in the garden
 - ✗ creosote / paintsetc

- ✓ These materials can be hazardous to the person through a variety of means - inhalation, skin contact, eye contact and ingestion. The manufacturer of each substance is obliged by law to clearly label each product and identify the hazards that may be associated with its use. As a user in the Home, you must familiarise yourself with these hazards and the safe methods of using each substance. Often this will involve using protective clothing, reference part 1.3.

- ✓ The Home has a Register of all hazardous substances used within it. For each substance management of the Home has undertaken an appropriate RISK ASSESSMENT which will identify the hazards associated with its use, and the degree of severity of each hazard. From this we have prepared our policies and procedures that ensure safe use of these materials within the Home. You will find that appropriate training will be given in the safe use and handling of each substance as it applies to your specific job. This will concentrate upon proper labelling, safe mode of use according to manufacturers' instructions, wearing protective clothing and / or equipment (goggles etc) and the safe and secure storage of each substance when not in use.

- ✓ You MUST observe this documented good practice when using hazardous substances, and part of your training programme will be to read and understand all the relevant policies and procedures associated with the safe handling of hazardous substances.

1.8 MANUAL HANDLING TASKS



The majority of accidents and injuries to care staff arise through performing tasks that involve some degree of lifting, handling or moving. Unfortunately, it is a fact of life that almost every job will involve lifting or carrying to some extent, and it is important that correct techniques are used when undertaking what is known as “Manual Handling” tasks.

These tasks are not restricted to simple lifting and handling, but can also involve sitting, stooping, bending, twisting and other ergonomic considerations.