



**News Release
Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council**

**'Laundry Ledger' Series Recaps HLAC/ARTA
Sponsored Webinar on Handling
Pharmaceutical Waste In Healthcare
Laundry**

PLAINFIELD, IL - Aug. 18, 2017 - The [Laundry Ledger](#) is publishing a three-part series that recaps a recent webinar, "Managing Pharmaceutical Waste: What Healthcare Laundry Facilities Need to Know," sponsored by the Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) and the American Reusable Textile Association (ARTA). The series is co-authored by webinar presenters Charlotte A. Smith, RPh., MS, Senior Regulatory Advisor, PharmEcology services for WM Sustainability Services, Houston, TX; and Gregory Gicewicz, past president of HLAC and owner/operator of the healthcare laundry Sterile Surgical Systems, Tumwater, WA.

The [first article](#) in the series looks at the basics of understanding pharmaceutical waste. Included is a discussion of:

- The multiple meanings of "hazardous waste"
- The difference between regulated medical waste and hazardous chemical waste
- Waste vendors and which take what
- Color-coded container solutions
- Sewerable drugs
- Immediate action steps that can be taken in the handling of pharmaceutical waste.

The second article in the series will look at critical decisions regarding managing pharmaceutical waste. The full presentation (available as a PDF) can be found at HLAC's website, www.hlacnet.org, or [here](#).

"HLAC requires that a laundry facility meet specific standards related to its handling of pharmaceutical waste to pass inspection," said John Scherberger, president of HLAC. "We were pleased along with our co-sponsor ARTA to have been able to provide this forum for healthcare laundry operators - the webinar proved quite popular. And we're grateful to The Laundry Ledger for providing Charlotte Smith and Gregory Gicewicz an opportunity to summarize the presentation in the three-part series."

About HLAC

The Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council (HLAC) is a nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of inspecting and accrediting laundries processing healthcare textiles for hospitals, nursing homes and other healthcare facilities. Visit www.hlacnet.org and on Twitter [@NewsHlac](https://twitter.com/NewsHlac).

HLAC Information: Regina Baras 855-277-HLAC (4522); rbaras@hlacnet.org
Media Information: Ken Swoyer 847-424-1256; kswoyer@hlacnet.org
www.hlacnet.org

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