Environmental Policy

With global health challenges at heart and as part of its commitment to minimize its environmental impact, MedinCell is committed to integrating climate action and sustainability into the lifecycle of its products and to preserving biodiversity and resources for future generations.

This environmental policy (the “Environmental Policy”) describes MedinCell’s commitments to comply with the applicable legislation and the current objectives to minimize its impact on the environment.

This Environmental Policy may be amended from time to time to reflect regulations changes and set a continuous improvement framework. It sets ambitious climate related goals to be in line with Paris Agreements and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and places environmental management at the heart of all our activities.

As described in our CSR Policy, MedinCell commits to:

- Develop products with a reduced environmental impact and strive to design new sustainable technologies,
- Strive to reduce manufacturing processes waste and emissions and aim to have a lean process starting with Quality by Design for technology transfer to our partners,
- Minimize our global footprint by reducing and sorting waste, rationalizing energy use and reducing emissions.

To that end, MedinCell has implemented clear goals that each department shall incorporate as part of our global environmental roadmap. For instance, MedinCell expects the following (but not limited) individual actions and daily practices:

- handle and store chemicals with great care to prevent any leak and report any spillage,
- reasonably use water and electricity, turning off lights and devices when not in use,
- use alternative commuting modes when possible,
- limit waste and properly sort it,
- optimize resources and processes, (paper, solvent, raw material, ...),
- consider the environmental cost in the total cost of any item and during technology optimization.

Additionally, we expect our suppliers and business partners to operate their business in an environmentally responsible manner, as described in our Supplier Code of Conduct. We believe that enrolling partners that are committed to more sustainable practices fosters and accelerates continuous improvement and keeps us in line with our ambition to develop low environmental impact products.

This Environmental Policy describes MedinCell’s compliance with the applicable legislation and MedinCell’s environmental management system scope and its application by main environmental subjects.
A- Legal Compliance & Environmental Management (SDG 13)

As a French company MedinCell complies with the French laws regarding the environment (Code de l’Environnement, Loi sur l’Eau, Loi LAURE, Grenelle II, as well as local regulations such as arrêtés ministériels and arrêtés préfectoraux). We strive to reduce our carbon emissions as committed by France with the Paris Agreement and work towards the SDGs.

As some of our suppliers and contractors are located abroad, we contractually ensure they comply with the local laws and international applicable standards and regulations.

MedinCell’s environmental management system is based on legal compliance, environmental risks management, stakeholder’s integration, and continuous improvement. We use the Deming’s wheel to implement our strategy in the most efficient way, following the four steps described in the model: Plan, Do, Check, Act.

To anticipate risks and be aware of our environmental impact, we regularly update our environmental risks analysis. This analysis helps us anticipating any potential breach and fostering good practices.

Because environmental challenges are a shared concern, we strongly believe that every person or team at MedinCell must strive to integrate sustainable objectives into their work, as set in the MedinCell’s roadmap.

B - Main environmental subjects

I. Water Management and Natural Resources Protection (SDG 6)

As a committed player for Global Health, we advocate that access to clean water is essential and a basic human right. We strive to protect the water resources by reducing our direct or indirect impact on water. We aim at reducing our water consumption, treating properly any eluent, and reducing or eliminating direct or indirect water pollution.

We follow our water consumption to detect early on any leak or usage deviance. In our facilities, water that is in contact with chemicals or solvents is never linked to the city water network and is discarded in specific containers to be properly treated. Any leak of chemicals in the environment is prevented by an impervious floor in the laboratory, as well as retention containers in the hazardous waste storage area and any chemicals storage. Actions and procedures are in place to react to any leak, spillage in the shortest possible time.

We assess our water consumption to determine the most water consuming steps in the process, and to take actions to reduce future manufacturing consumption.

Our technology allows for some product to reduce the necessary amount of drug needed for a treatment thus reducing the initial drug manufacturing need and water contamination through human medicine excretions.

II. Air Quality and Energy Management (SDG 7, 11)

We proactively seek to minimize our impact on the environment by assessing and reducing our carbon footprint, by making the design of more sustainable technologies and processes an ongoing concern.

To comply with the LAURE law (Loi sur l’Air et l’Utilisation Rationnelle de l’Energie, Law on Air and the Rational Use of Energy), we strive to assess and limit as much as possible our emissions in the atmosphere, whether it’s chemicals or carbon dioxide.

To be in line with the Paris Agreements aiming at limiting global warming, MedinCell strives to reduce its carbon emissions as much as possible. We assess our carbon footprint as precisely as possible regarding the scopes 1, 2 and 3 of the GreenHouse Gas Protocol. This assessment allows us to identify our emissions hotspots, whether
in direct emissions or in the supply chain, and engage stakeholders to implement more sustainable actions and reduce our carbon footprint.

As the quality of air in the Montpellier Area is mainly dependent on traffic, the Metropole is implementing a Low Emission Zone. MedinCell contributes actively to this initiative by enforcing a travel policy and implementing a commuting plan.

All our chemicals' containers are equipped with active coal filters to prevent the leak of any harmful substance in the atmosphere.

We assess our energy consumption to detect any possible usage deviance.

III. Waste Management

MedinCell holds some activities of mainly research and development on site, leading to the use of chemicals and the production of hazardous waste. The offices activities also generate waste production. We commit to sorting and disposing of any waste, hazardous or not, in the appropriate manner. MedinCell assumes responsibility from its waste generation to its final elimination.

The route of hazardous waste is described in the Environmental Risks Analysis and actions are taken to ensure a safe disposal of this type of waste. The better waste is the one that doesn’t exist, so we make every effort in reducing our waste at all stages of the lifecycle of our products, from conception to medical application, including supply chain and production.

IV. Environment and Biodiversity Preservation (SDG 13)

The preservation of our close environment is necessary to protect biodiversity and nature. The Hérault department contains a diverse and precious fauna and flora, as well as natural sites of interest. The French law defines natural places to protect (such as Natura 2000 law). The mapping and assessment showed that the Jacou facility is not concerned as it is not located in any of these specifically protected areas.

As we mainly conduct activities of research and development, and don’t have any big scale production, our impact on the direct environment is already limited. However, we remain attentive to biodiversity preservation and will strive to implement positive actions.

V. Green Technology Development

More than a groundbreaking medical innovation, the technology we develop also allows environmental improvements in the pharmaceutical field.

The technologies we develop sets green ambitions for the future of biotechnologies. They are designed to enabling innovative therapeutic options notably inducing less medicine waste, reducing global waste and power needs among the production and consumption. As an example, our long-acting injectable technology can potentially reduce the quantity of drug needed compared to oral form of the treatment and thereby reducing some of the metabolic waste, and overuse of active ingredients. This mode of delivery would thus reduce human medicine excretions that can cause water contamination. It can also guarantee the adherence to treatment and thus limit the quantity of unused medicine thrown out of recycling channels. It could also limit the quantity of packaging needed all along the supply chain.

We strive to design new sustainable technologies by investigating new polymer, solvent, and other component as raw material for future technologies.