

Emergency Plan

The following procedures are recommended for the management of personal contamination and accidental spills:

Personal Contamination:

1. Remove any contaminated clothing and place in biohazard bag to be autoclaved.
2. The contaminated area of the person will be initially cleaned with soap and water.
3. The contaminated person should go to the University Emergency Room, or call 911 for immediate assistance, to receive medical evaluation and treatment. In case of needle stick or other injuries, the status of tetanus vaccination should be verified. The local or systemic symptoms will be monitored for a short term. If the accident occurs after hours, call the Hospital emergency room 202-865-1141.
4. Inform the PI and University Biosafety Officer (the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at (202) 806-1230) to report the accident.

Accidental Spills:

- A. Inside a Biosafety cabinet (BSC)
 1. Close the sash and keep BSC running.
 2. Keep people out of the area and put a warning sign on the cabinet indicating the spill.
 3. Wait at least five minutes to allow the BSC to remove aerosols.
 4. Inform PI and Biosafety Officer to report the size, location, and composition of the spill. Seek assistance if necessary.
 5. Put on protective clothing (lab coat, gloves, face or eye protection) and assemble clean-up materials (disinfectant, paper towels, biological waste container, biohazard bags, forceps, etc)
 6. Apply disinfectant to the spilled area and allow a minimum of 20 minutes contact time.
 7. Wipe up spillage with disposable disinfectant-soaked paper towels.
 8. Clean the inside walls of BSC, work surfaces and any equipment in the cabinet with disinfectant-soaked paper towels.
 9. Discard contaminated disposable materials in biological waste box for disposal.
 10. Place contaminated reusable items in biohazard bags for autoclaving.
 11. Wash non-autoclavable materials with disinfectant (20 minutes contact time- immerse or spray entire surface of material) before removal from the BSC.
 12. Remove protective clothing used during cleanup and place in a biohazard bag for autoclaving.

13. Run BSC 10 minutes after cleanup before resuming work or turning BSC off.
14. Wash hands thoroughly after cleanup with soap and water.

B. In the laboratory (outside the BSC)

1. Remove any contaminated clothing and place in biohazard bag to be autoclaved.
2. Evacuate the room, close the door immediately and put a warning sign on the door indicating the spill.
3. Inform PI and Biosafety Officer if the material is BSL 2 or greater to report the size, location, and composition of the spill. Seek assistance from the UBSO to decontaminate the area.
4. Wait at least for 30 min before re-enter the room for decontamination.
5. Put on protective clothing (lab coat, gloves, face or eye protection, shoe covers), assemble clean-up materials (disinfectant, paper towels, biological waste container, biohazardous bags, forceps, sharp container, etc) and initiate cleanup with disinfectant.
6. Place dry paper towels on spill then layer a second set of disinfectant soaked paper towels over the spill.
7. Encircle the spill with additional disinfectant.
8. Allow at least a minimum of 20 minutes contact time to ensure germicidal action of disinfectant.
9. Decontaminate all items within the spill area.
10. Pick up broken glass with forceps and dispose it in the sharp container.
11. Discard the spillage-disinfectant soaked paper towels and contaminated disposable materials in the biological waste box for disposal.
12. Place reusable and autoclavable items in biohazardous bag for autoclaving.
13. Wipe equipment and reusable items with appropriate disinfectant (allow 20 minutes contact time).
14. Remove protective clothing used in cleanup and place in a biohazard bag for autoclaving.
15. Wash hands thoroughly after cleanup with soap and water.

C. Inside a centrifuge

1. Keep people out of the area and put a warning sign on the cabinet indicating the spill.
2. Inform PI and Biosafety Officer if the material is BSL 2 or greater to report the size, location, and composition of the spill. Seek assistance from the UBSO to decontaminate the area.
3. Wait 30 minutes for aerosol to settle before attempting to cleanup spill.
4. Remove rotors and buckets to nearest BSC for cleanup.
5. Clean the inside of centrifuge thoroughly with disinfectant.
6. Discard contaminated disposable materials in the biological waste box for disposal.
7. Remove protective clothing used during cleanup and place in a biohazard bag for autoclaving.
8. Wash hands thoroughly after cleanup with soap and water.

D. Outside the laboratory, in transit.

1. To prevent a spill, transport labeled biohazardous material in an unbreakable, well-sealed primary container placed inside of a second unbreakable, covered container labeled with the biohazard symbol.
2. If a spill occurs in a public area, secure the area, keep all people clear of the spill, and put a warning sign indicating the spill.
3. Inform PI and Biosafety Officer if the material is BSL 2 or greater to report the size, location, and composition of the spill. Seek assistance for cleanup.
4. Decontaminate the spill area immediately as described in "B" above.

Report to Safety Officer who needs to report accident to DHHS.

If the accident occurs after hours, call the Hospital emergency room 202-865-1141.

Gloves, culture plates and flasks; centrifuge tubes, filter flasks will be disposed in standard waste can lined with two red biohazard bags. These bags will be decontaminated by autoclaving as per standard practice. Disinfect liquid waste materials by chemical treatment equivalent to 1:10 bleach solution

Decontamination Procedure for Working Area.

All material and equipment contaminated with or containing potentially infectious agents will be decontaminated: upon completion of procedures involving the use of biologically-active materials, in the event of spills of such materials, and/or at least daily by surface application of or placement in a chemical disinfectant solution, such as 1:10 bleach solution or its equivalent.

Surface application of 70-95% ethanol or commercial disinfectants, UV sterilization, certified annually

The site will be isolated, the room will be evacuated immediately, and the door will be closed. Wait for 30 min before re-enter for decontamination. The person who does the decontamination should wear lab coat, gloves, and eye protection. The contaminated area will be cleaned with 10% bleach and allowed to air-dry.