

## **UNIVERSAL PRECAUTIONS SPILL RESPONSE GUIDE**

Prepare and maintain a spill response kit. Basic equipment is some concentrated disinfectant (chlorine bleach), a package of paper towels, household rubber gloves, biohazard bags, and forceps to pick up broken glass. The contents of the kit can be kept in a small sharps container or plastic container.

### **Biosafety Level 2 (BL2) Spill**

1. Avoid inhaling airborne material, while quickly leaving the room. Notify others to leave. Close door, and post with a warning sign.
2. Remove contaminated clothing, turn exposed areas inward, and place in a biohazard bag.
3. Wash all exposed skin with disinfectant.
4. Inform Supervisor, and, if assistance is needed, consult OHS Biosafety (785-3550).

### **Clean-up of BL2 Spill:**

1. Allow aerosols to disperse for at least 30 minutes before reentering the laboratory. Assemble clean-up materials (disinfectant, paper towels, biohazard bags, and
2. forceps).
3. Put on protective clothing (lab coat or tyvek, face protection, utility gloves, and booties if necessary). Depending on the nature of the spill, it may be advisable to wear a HEPA filtered respirator instead of a surgical mask.
4. Cover the area with disinfectant-soaked towels, and then carefully pour disinfectant around the spill. Avoid enlarging the contaminated area. Use more concentrated disinfectant as it is diluted by the spill. Allow at least a 20 minute contact time.
5. Handle any sharps objects with forceps and discard in a sharps container. Wipe surrounding areas (where the spill may have splashed) with disinfectant.
6. Soak up the disinfectant and spill, and place the materials into a biohazard bag.
7. Spray the area with 10% household bleach solution and allow to air-dry (or wipe down with disinfectant-soaked towels after a 10 minute contact time). Place all contaminated paper towels and any contaminated protective clothing into a biohazard bag and autoclave.

Wash hands and exposed skin areas with disinfectant or antiseptic soap and water.

**Blood Spills** (For blood or other material with a high organic content and low concentration of infectious microorganisms)

1. Wear gloves, eye protection, and a labcoat (or tyvek).
2. Absorb blood with paper towels or disinfectant-soaked paper towels and place in a biohazard bag. Collect any sharp objects with forceps or other mechanical device and place in a sharps container.
3. Using a detergent solution, clean the spill site of all visible blood.
4. Spray the spill site with 10% household bleach and allow to air-dry for 15 minutes.
5. After the 15 minute contact time, wipe the area down with disinfectant-soaked paper towels. Discard all disposable materials used to decontaminate the spill and any contaminated personal protective equipment into a biohazard bag. Decontaminate any reusable items with disinfectant.
6. Wash your hands.