

Emergencies

A good safety program, training, and use of precautions reduce the number and seriousness of accidents. Laboratory accidents can range from fires to chemical spills to slips and falls.

Your laboratory should prepare plans for major and/or minor emergencies. These plans should match the nature of your laboratory and the specific hazards likely to be involved with any emergency. These plans and other safety policies should be described in your laboratory's Injury Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) and Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP).

All lab personnel should become familiar with these procedures and follow them. Emergency plans are described in the departments Emergency Action Plan. Ask your departmental administration for details.

Fire Incidents

- A. Operating Portable Fire Extinguishers - Download and review the latest Fire Net: <http://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/safetynet/operating-portable-fire-extinguishers>
- B. "Should You Fight the Fire?" **If alone, DO NOT attempt to fight a fire.**
- C. Before you begin to fight a SMALL FIRE (no larger than the size of a 5-gallon bucket):
 1. Activate fire alarm and call UC Davis Fire **9-1-1**.
530-752-1234 – Davis 916-734-2555 – Sacramento-UCDHS
 2. Make sure everyone has left, or is leaving, the building.
 3. Be sure that your extinguisher is the proper size and type for the fire at hand and that you know how to use it.
 4. It is reckless to fight a fire with an extinguisher in any other circumstances. Instead, leave immediately, close off the area, and leave the fire for the fire department.
- D. Fire Evacuation Procedures
 1. **When a Fire Alarm is Activated:**
 - a. Walk - do not run to the nearest exit (Remove high heels to avoid tripping). Alarm may not sound continuously. If alarm stops, continue to evacuate.
 - b. Follow emergency personnel directions.
 - c. Use stairways for exits, do not use elevators. Do not push or crowd, use handrails in stairwells and stay to the right.
 - d. Give assistance to disabled persons.
 - e. Feel doors (top and bottom) for heat - use back of your hand. If hot, do not open. If not hot, open door slowly.
 - f. Notify emergency personnel if you suspect someone may be trapped inside the building.
 - g. Proceed to assigned evacuation area (at least 100 feet from building). Refer to your department Emergency Evacuation Plan.
 - h. Do not interfere in anyway with actions of emergency personnel.

2. If Trapped in a Room:

- a. Place cloth material around or under door to prevent smoke from entering.
- b. Retreat and close as many doors as possible between you and the fire.
- c. Be prepared to signal from a window but do not break glass unless absolutely necessary (Outside smoke may be drawn in).

3. If Caught in Smoke:

- a. Drop to hands and knees and crawl.
- b. Hold breath as much as possible.
- c. Breathe slowly through nose and use blouse, shirt or jacket as filter.

4. If Forced to Advance Through Flames:

- a. Hold your breath as much as possible.
- b. Move QUICKLY and cover head and hair.
- c. Keep head down and eyes closed as much as possible.

5. If Clothing Catches on Fire:

STOP . . . DROP . . . ROLL

CHEMICAL SPILLS

- A. Respond to Chemical Spills: Safety Net #13 –
<http://safetyservices.ucdavis.edu/safetynet/guidelines-chemical-spill-control>

It is difficult to make general statements about the best way to handle a chemical spill since there are many factors to consider in clean up, including:

1. The size of the spill.
2. The toxicity or other hazardous properties of the material.
3. Clean-up materials available in the department.
4. The level of knowledge and training of the person doing the clean up.
5. The availability of assistance.

Clean-up procedures for one situation may be ineffective or even harmful in another. The only really accurate clean-up guidelines are those specific to the chemical involved in the spill. Therefore, employees can best prepare themselves by reviewing with their instructor, any spill procedures or SOPs to be followed for the chemicals they use in the lab, before they actually use them. If you are unfamiliar with the chemical properties and are not equipped to handle spills, **call EH&S at 530-752-1493**.

Clean-Up Guidelines

- a. Inform others in the area of the spill.
- b. Communicate the news out to other staff regarding the identity of the substances, the location of the spill, the amount and approximate rate of release of the chemical.

B. Safety and Protection

1. Evacuate personnel who do not have spill-containment responsibilities.
2. Make sure appropriate personal protective equipment is being used. At a minimum wear:
 - a. Proper respirator (ONLY if fit-tested and approved by EH&S)
 - b. Splash goggles
 - c. Lab coat or apron.

d. Gloves: appropriate type of chemical resistant gloves designed to protect you from exposure to the material involved.

C. Containment and Clean-Up

1. Use best available clean-up materials (you may have spill sheets or pillows, vermiculite, paper towels, or other absorbent materials). Wipe with soap and water using as minimal material as possible to avoid generating unnecessary waste.
2. Double bag it and put it in a box; store temporarily in a fume hood if material is volatile.
3. Keep record of:
 - a. date, place, and time
 - b. material and amount
 - c. measures taken and materials used
 - d. personnel involved

D. Disposal

1. Label with UC Davis Hazardous Waste Tag using the campus online WASTE system, and dispose of as hazardous waste.
2. Call EH&S Waste Disposal @ 530-752-1493 for details on waste pick-up information.
3. NEVER put contaminated material into the trash.

E. Do Not Clean a Spill If:

1. You feel it is unsafe to do so.
2. You don't know what the spilled material is, or lack the necessary protection or clean-up materials to do the job safely.
3. The spill is large (1 pint or more of a hazardous material, or would take more than 15 minutes to clean).
4. The spilled material is highly toxic.
5. You feel any physical symptoms of exposure (dye irritation, difficulty breathing, coughing, dizziness, nausea, skin irritation).

If unable to clean the spill, you should:

1. Isolate the spill (if possible).
2. Evacuate area and keep people away.
3. Call for help: UC Davis Fire (24 hrs) @ 9-1-1 (land line)
530-752-1234 – Davis 916-734-2555 – Sacramento-UCDHS

F. Special Situations

Mercury, Radioactive, Biohazardous or Carcinogenic materials: For spills involving these materials, call EH&S @ 530-752-1493 immediately for information.

G. "What Must Be Reported?"

1. All spills of extremely flammable/pyrophoric materials (Flash point less than 20° F).
2. All spills of extremely corrosive materials must be reported (e.g., HF acid).
3. All spills of extremely toxic materials must be reported (e.g. carcinogens)
4. All personal contamination must be reported
5. All leaking containers must be reported
6. All uncontrolled compressed gas releases must be reported.

LAB INJURIES

Everyone in the lab (employees and students) should know what to do in case an injury occurs. The basics are as follows:

A. Medical Care

1. **EMERGENCIES - For Employees, Students and others on Davis and Sacramento Campus**
 - Please refer to Emergency Contact Information on next page(s).
 - All lab workers must notify their PI and supervisor of any injury or illness on the date of injury whenever possible.
 - The PI or supervisors report of injury or incident report form should be completed and forwarded to Human Resources/Workers Compensation within 24 hours. Forms are available from the department administrator or on the HR website.
2. **NON-EMERGENCIES - Work incurred injury:**
 - i. **During Regular Business Hours**
 - Please refer to Emergency Contact Information on next page(s).
 - All lab workers must notify their PI and supervisor of any injury or illness on the date of injury whenever possible.
 - The PI or supervisor must complete the Employer First Report (EFR) online as soon as practicable. <https://ehs.ucop.edu/efr/home>
 - ii. **After Regular Business Hours/Weekends**
 - Please refer to Emergency Contact Information on next page(s).
 - All lab workers must notify their PI and supervisor of any injury or illness on the date of injury whenever possible.
 - The PI or supervisor must complete the Employer First Report (EFR) online as soon as practicable. <https://ehs.ucop.edu/efr/home>
 - iii. **First Aid**
 - Basic first aid for chemical exposures is summarized on the following page – review this information with your students.
 - First aid measures such as CPR and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation should be administered by trained individuals.
 - If you aren't trained in first aid, identify others in your department who are so you know who to call for hands-on assistance.

BASIC FIRST AID FOR CHEMICAL EXPOSURE

A. Eye Contact

- FLUSH eyes at eyewash (or other source of fresh water) for a minimum of 15 MINUTES.
- Help victim HOLD EYELIDS OPEN (there is a strong reflex to shut them).
- In all cases, SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION as soon as possible.

B. Skin Contact

- FLUSH skin with water for at least 15 minutes.
- For chemical exposure use EMERGENCY SHOWER. (Do not hesitate to use the shower).
- If necessary to REMOVE CLOTHING, do so while IN THE SHOWER.
- SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION as soon as possible.

C. Inhalation

- Remove victim to FRESH AIR.
- Keep victim WARM.
- If BREATHING STOPS and you are trained to do so, give MOUTH-TO-MOUTH RESUSCITATION.
- If victim is UNCONSCIOUS, call for help immediately.
- SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION as soon as possible.

EMERGENCY- UCDHS

AMBULANCE

911

FIRE – Hazardous Spills

911

From a Cell phone

916-734-2555

POLICE

911

From a Cell phone

916-734-2555

HEALTH CARE:

EMPLOYEE HEALTH – Cypress Building
2221 Stockton Blvd, Suite A
Sacramento, CA 95817
(7AM – 3PM M-F)

916-734-3572

AFTER HOURS URGENT CARE

916-733-3377

Mercy Medical Group
3000 Q St., Sacramento
(3PM – 7PM M-F) (8AM – 4PM Weekends)

EMERGENCY ROOM – Emergencies Only
2315 Stockton Blvd. (follow signs to ER)
Sacramento, CA 95817
(7PM – 7AM M-F) (4PM – 8AM Weekends)

916-734-3183

SAFETY:

Occupational Safety
Workers’ Compensation
24-hour Claim Line
Risk Management

916-734-2740
916-734-3362
916-734-8789
916-734-3883

PI/Lab Supervisor: _____
Name Phone#