Accidents Involving Biohazardous and/or Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acids Materials

IMMEDIATE RESPONSE

SPILLS – Outside a Biosafety Cabinet

1. Warn other workers about the spill and leave the room.

2. Remove and place contaminated PPE into a biohazard waste bag.

3. Wash all exposed skin with soap and water.

4. Place a spill warning sign on the door.

5. Allow aerosols to settle for at least 30 minutes before reentering the laboratory.

6. Assemble clean-up materials (disinfectant, paper towels, biohazard bags, and forceps).

7. Put on PPE (lab coat, face protection, gloves, and booties if necessary). Eye and face protection must be worn for any spill containing larger volumes or those that may generate a splash or droplet that could cause a mucous membrane exposure.

8. Cover the area with paper towels or other absorbent materials, and then carefully pour disinfectant working around the edges of the spill and inward to the center.

9. Allow at least a 20 minute contact time.

10. Use forceps, tongs, or broom to remove broken glass and other items; place them in sharps container.

11. Wipe surrounding areas (where the spill may have splashed - cabinets, equipment, furniture, walls) with disinfectant.

12. Spray spilled area with disinfectant and allow to air-dry.

13. Place all contaminated paper towels and any contaminated PPE into a biohazard waste bag.

14. Remove PPE, wash hands and exposed skin areas thoroughly with soap and water.

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