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Policy & Procedure Manual		
Section: Laboratory Safety Manual	Subject Title: Biological Spill Control	
Issued by: LABORATORY MANAGER	Original Date: April 20, 2001	
Approved by: Laboratory Director	Revision Date: October 22, 2003	

### **Policy:**

MSH is responsible to protect patients, visitors, staff and property from hazardous or potentially hazardous biological spills. MSH will provide a fast and safe means of containment and clean up of hazardous spills.

## **Purpose:**

In the event of a spill, competent, prompt action is necessary for immediate clean-up to reduce and eliminate the hazards present.

# **Responsibility:**

Management and employees

### **Key Elements:**

- Small spill at MSH
- Large spill at MSH
- Small spill at St Patrick Site
- Large Spill at St Patrick Site

#### **Related Documents:**

Emergency Procedure Manuals Home	<b>Code Brown</b>

#### **Procedure:**

### 1. Mount Sinai Hospital

### **Small Spill**

- 1. If the spill is in a public area such as a corridor, warn others to leave and start the clean up immediately.
- 2. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (laboratory coat, gloves, face shield or goggles, etc.).
- 3. Use forceps or heavy gloves to pick up any broken glass and discard into a sharps container.
- 4. Cover spill with paper towels to avoid splashing during the addition of disinfectant.
- 5. Squirt disinfectant (1% hypochlorite) onto paper towels with circular motion, from the outside towards the centre.
- 6. Let stand for 30 minutes.
- 7. Clean up paper towels and place them in a yellow biohazard bag.
- 8. Disinfect contaminated surface with appropriate disinfectant and wipe with additional paper towels. Place paper towels in a yellow biohazard bag.

 $PROCEDURE\ MANUAL \\ TORONTO\ MEDICAL\ LABORATORIES\setminus MOUNT\ SINAI\ HOSPITAL\ MICROBIOLOGY\ DEPARTMENT$ 

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MSH	Biological Spill Kits	1 Pair Nitrile Gloves	Forceps (2)
	for small spills. Room	1 Pair Goggles	N95 respirator – 1 box
	1470 planting area	Yellow biohazard bags	Paper towels
		Bleach with 2 squirt bottles	_

# 1. Mount Sinai Hospital

## Large Spill

- 1. Hold breath, leave area, allow 10 to 30 minutes for aerosol to settle.
- 2. If the spill is in a public area such as a corridor, warn others to leave.
- 3. Obtain the spill control materials.
- 4. Any individual involved in the clean-up of a spill must determine the nature of the spill and the appropriate clean-up procedure before beginning clean-up.
- 5. The person in charge in the department where the spill has occurred (i.e. the user department) is responsible for ensuring that information about the material spilled is available for those involved in the clean-up to ensure:
  - proper classification
  - appropriate equipment is available
  - necessary precautions are taken
  - appropriate expertise is available
  - external resources are requested, if necessary.
- 6. The user department is responsible for ensuring that any spill is safely and effectively cleaned up. This includes situations which involve the assistance of staff from other departments.
- 7. An Employee Incident Report will be completed by the user department following the clean-up of a spill involving a hazardous material or substance. The incident report should be forwarded to Employee Health Services within 24 hours following the spill. Employee Health Services will forward a copy of the Employee Incident Report to the office of the Vice-President/Risk Manager, Room 333.
- 8. If Housekeeping is to be involved in a spill clean-up of a hazardous or an identified chemical or substance, the Housekeeping <u>Supervisor</u> must be notified by the user department before Housekeeping staff begin clean-up.
- 9. When Housekeeping is notified of a spill, the Housekeeping Department Supervisor will determine the classification of the spill, in consultation with the user department.
- 10. Once the spill has been classified by a Housekeeping Supervisor, the clean-up may proceed.
- 11. If the spill involves a chemical or a toxic substance, the user department will ensure that the Material Safety Data Sheet is available.
- 12. The user Department Head and the Housekeeping Supervisor will ensure that the cleanup is done in a safe manner, using the information available on the Material Safety Data Sheet.

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IN ALL INSTANCES, IF IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED BY THE PERSON IN CHARGE THAT A SPILL CANNOT BE HANDLED IN A SAFE, COMPETENT MANNER BY HOSPITAL STAFF, OR, IF THE NATURE OF THE SUBSTANCE CANNOT BE DETERMINED, THE USER DEPARTMENT WILL ACTIVATE THE FIRE ALARM/PULL STATION AND CALL LOCAL 5555 IN ORDER TO OBTAIN THE ASSISTANCE OF THE EMERGNECY RESPONSE TEAM OR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

INDICATE: CODE BROWN

- THE TYPE OF SPILL (IF KNOWN)
- THE LOCATION OF THE SPILL
- THE NAME OF THE PERSON IN CHARGE IN THE USER DEPARTMENT

The Fire Department, when they arrive, will assume responsibility for co-ordinating and directing the clean-up procedure.

### 2. TML St. Patrick Site

## **Small Spill**

- 1. If the spill is in a public area such as a corridor, warn others to leave and start the clean up immediately.
- 2. Use appropriate personal protective equipment (laboratory coat, gloves, face shield or goggles, etc.).
- 3. Use forceps or heavy gloves to pick up any broken glass and discard into a sharps container or yellow sharps bucket.
- 4. Clean up with paper towels. Place paper towels in a yellow biohazard bag.
- 5. Disinfect contaminated surface with an appropriate disinfectant and wipe with additional paper towels. Place paper towels in a yellow biohazard bag.

#### Large Spill

- 1. Obtain the spill control materials.
- 2. If the spill is in a public area such as a corridor, warn others to leave and start the clean up immediately. Barricade the spill area with floor signs.
- 3. Use appropriate personnel protective equipment (protective clothing, gloves, face shield or goggles, footwear).
- 4. Use forceps or heavy gloves to pick up any broken glass and discard into a sharps container or yellow sharps bucket.
- 5. Estimate the volume of the spill and place an appropriate number of spill control pillows or similar products on the spill or encircle large spills to prevent their spread. Allow the absorptive action of the spill control pillow to absorb the spill.
- 6. Place pillows in a yellow biohazard bag.

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- 7. Disinfect contaminated surface with an appropriate disinfectant and wipe with additional pillows. Place pillows in a yellow biohazard bag and seal.
- 8. Inform the Supervisor or designate. Document the spill on the Employee Incident Report and give it to the Supervisor.