

Radioactive Incident Response Guide

INCIDENT HAS OCCURRED – Report any leak, spill, release of radioactive material, or personal injury with contamination to the responsible authorized user immediately, and contact the following Emergency Contacts: Call Radiation Safety Officer / EHS 704-687-1111 and Campus Police: Campus Phone dial 911, Non-campus phone dial 704-687-2200

- Containable Fire
- Airborne RAM Release (e.g. volatile Iodine 125 or 131 isotopes)
- Large Area Contamination
- Major Spill (millicurie amounts or greater)



All personnel must leave the spill area/room and remain together – do not re-enter spill zone/room – Get a copy of the Nuclide Safety Data Sheet for the Isotope spilled – do not track spill materials around.



Call campus police at 704-687-2200 and Radiation Safety Officer 704-687-1111.



Standby for the Radiation Safety Officer from EHS and Campus Police to arrive. Police and EHS will determine further actions as necessary.



- Personal Injury with Contamination



Authorized Personnel - Secure the Area (shut the lab door) and Call Campus Police - Get a copy of the Nuclide Safety Data Sheet for the Isotope spilled – do not track spill materials around.



Administer First Aid – Decontaminate Person by removing clothing/washing with detergent/water solution – ONLY if the severity of the injury allows action to be taken.



Standby for the Radiation Safety Officer from EHS and Campus Police to arrive. Police and EHS will determine further actions as necessary.



After incident has been brought under control and area cleaned up, complete a post incident report to EHS and Radiation Safety Committee detailing follow-up actions to prevent reoccurrence of the incident. EHS will begin the post incident report process through the Principal Investigator.

- Minor Spill (Microcurie amounts)



Authorized Personnel - Secure the area, ALL unnecessary personnel must leave spill area – Get a copy of the Nuclide Safety Data Sheet for the Isotope spilled - do not track spill materials around – keep spill isolated.



Monitor spill area with Geiger Counter (Geiger not for H3/Tritium) – Complete cleanup with detergent, fantastik or White Vinegar - Complete LSC swipe samples for each 100cm² of spill material area, check all affected areas (door knobs, refrigerator, sink, etc.) ALL swipe sample results MUST equal background results. If results are high – re clean affected area. .and retest.



Standby for the Radiation Safety Officer from EHS, EHS will determine further action as necessary.



Please Note: ONLY the laboratory RAM Authorized User, trained laboratory radiation workers or the Radiation Safety Officer (Authorized Personnel) can complete RAM spill cleanups in the laboratory. You may only attempt spill cleanups if you are fully aware of the hazards produced by the RAM isotope being used in the laboratory (see nuclide safety data sheet).