

Biological Spills: Clean-up Procedures Quick Guide

Spill Clean-up Materials

- Disinfectant solution (10% freshly prepared bleach is effective in most cases)
- Forceps, tongs, broom, dust pan
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): safety glasses, goggles, or face shield, gloves, wrap-around lab coat, shoe covers (optional)
- 'Biohazard' red bag, and sharps container if needed
- Paper towels, blue pads, or other absorbent

Spill Involving Liquids with Risk Group 1 or Risk Group 2 Infectious Materials

1. Alert people in immediate area.
2. Don PPE.
3. Cover an area twice the size of the spill with paper towels. Pour disinfectant solution onto the spill, starting at the perimeter and working inward from the edges of the towels. Avoid splashing.
4. Allow a proper contact period as per the disinfectant.
5. Wipe down any contaminated stationary equipment or furniture with disinfectant.
6. Use forceps, tongs, or broom to remove broken glass and other items; for glass, place in sharps container or red bag if soft material.
7. Remove towels and re-clean area with disinfectant solution.
8. Decontaminate (autoclave OR chemical treatment) reusable clean-up items and other reusable equipment.
9. Inform laboratory personnel when the clean-up is complete.

Spill Involving Human Blood or Other Bodily Fluids

1. Clean up as described in "Spill Involving Liquids with Risk Group 1 or Risk Group 2 Infectious Materials."
 - a. The type of disinfectant to be used must be an EPA registered tuberculocides disinfectant (List B) as per the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1030.

Spill Inside a Biological Safety Cabinet (BSC)

1. Keep the cabinet running.
2. Clean-up as per directions on the left, making sure to wipe down back and side walls of cabinet.
3. If material has spilled into the catch tray beneath the work surface, add a volume of disinfectant equal to the quantity in the basin, allow a proper contact period as per the disinfectant, and absorb with paper towels.
4. After completion, allow cabinet to run for ten minutes before resuming work.

Spill Inside a Centrifuge

1. Shut centrifuge off and do not open the lid for 30 minutes to allow aerosols to settle.
2. Don PPE.
3. Use a squeeze bottle to apply disinfectant to all contaminated surfaces within the chamber, taking care to minimize splashing.
4. Allow a proper contact period as per the disinfectant.
5. Remove buckets and rotors to nearest Biological Safety Cabinet; disinfect and clean as per manufacturer's instructions.

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