

	Chemical Carcinogens: Guidelines for Writing Safety Protocols	Effective	January 25, 2006
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1. POLICY

1.1.1 The purpose of this policy is to assist persons with the guidelines for writing safety protocols that deal with Chemical Carcinogens.

2. SCOPE

2.1 This policy applies to Ross University School of Veterinary faculty, staff and students involved in the writing of protocols to be posted at the University.

3. PROCEDURE

The entrance to rooms where carcinogens are used or stored must be posted with signage indicating “Cancer Suspect Agent”, and have the safety protocols posted in the work area. The project supervisor is required to prepare this written safety protocol, and shall include the following information:

- Proper precautions for handling during normal use, including personal protective equipment and location restrictions.
- Brief description of the experiment, including:
 - Concentrations of stock and working solutions.
 - Techniques and equipment to assure containment.
 - Emergency procedures including deactivation and/or decontamination.
 - Personal protective measures to be employed and/or equipment to be used.
 - Duration of the proposed project.
- Emergency procedures must be specified for spills. Consideration should include the following:
 - When volatile liquid or gaseous chemical carcinogens (e.g. ethylene amine, dibromochloropropane, vinyl chloride) are spilled in the fume hood or glove box:
 - a. Immediately put on additional layers of gloves and be sure your laboratory coat is buttoned and chemical splash goggles are securely in place. Wear disposable booties. Put on an apron if large amounts of liquid are present.
 - b. Contain the spill by absorbing it in towels, rags, or other materials. Place spill materials, towels, rags, or other materials in a double layer of plastic bags. Seal the bag and label with a hazardous waste label. Leave the bag of spill waste in the hood.
 - c. Decontaminate the spill area. Specify decontamination method.
 - d. Check for residual spillage (specify technique). Decontaminate again if necessary.

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- e. Thoroughly wash arms, hands, and face. As soon as possible, shower and wash hair if Class III carcinogens are spilled.
- When volatile liquid or gaseous chemical carcinogens (e.g. formalin, benzene) are spilled in the general room:
 - a. Evacuate the room.
 - b. Call campus security.
 - c. Do not re-enter the room until cleared.
 - d. Shower if advised to do so.
- With nonvolatile liquids (i.e., dilute aqueous solutions, tissue cultures):
 - a. Put on additional protection (gloves, lab coat, apron and disposable booties).
 - b. Place the contaminated absorbent in double bags for disposal.
 - c. Decontaminate the spill area. Specify decontamination method.
 - d. Check for residual spillage (specify technique). Decontaminate again if necessary.
 - e. Thoroughly wash the arms, hands, and face of exposed individuals. Shower and wash if Class III carcinogens were spilled.
- When a substance is a particulate:
 - a. Isolate the area by barricading or other means so that the spill is not spread.
 - b. Put on additional protection (gloves, lab coat and apron). If the spill is extensive, respirators and/or impermeable coveralls may be necessary.
 - c. Gradually push particles from outside of the spill area towards the center, using moist towels. Do Not Dry Sweep!!
 - d. Pick up particulates by using moist towels or sponges. All carcinogen wastes must be managed and disposed as hazardous waste.
 - e. Additional wet-mopping or special vacuum may be necessary depending on the extent of the spill.
 - f. Decontaminate the spill area. Specify decontamination method.
 - g. Check for residual spillage (specify technique). Decontaminate again if necessary.
 - h. Thoroughly wash arms, hands, and face after cleanup. Shower and wash hair if Class III chemical carcinogens were spilled.