

Radiation Emergency Procedures

Accidents involving radioisotopes are of particular concern because of the added hazard of internal contamination. For this reason, one must be continuously aware of the potential for continuing exposure to radiation due to the presence of surface contamination, and the potential for the spread of the contamination, which could also result in the surface, and internal contamination of those providing aide to the victim being treated. For these reasons, the following guidelines must be followed:

Emergency Type	Hazard	Immediate Precautions	Follow-up
Minor Spills (usually micro curie amounts)	Radiation: No immediate radiation hazard to personnel Contamination low	1. Notify all persons in the room. 2. Confine spill immediately 3. Notify PI or lab manager 4. Notify Office of Radiation Safety at 940-565-3282	Decontamination equipment disposal, including surveys carried out by lab staff
Major Spill Decontamination (usually millicurie spill, amounts)	Radiation: May be hazard to personnel Contamination: hazard to personnel and equipment	1. Notify all personnel to vacate room or area. 2. Make NO attempt to clean up the spill 3. Switch off all portable fans and vacate room or area. 4. Provide temporary barrier & isolate the room. 5. Notify Radiation Safety Officer using 940-565-3282.	Decontamination equipment disposal, including surveys carried out by/under supervision of Office of Radiation Safety
Accidents involving: Dust Mist Fumes Vapors Gases	Radiation: Internal hazard due to possible inhalation or ingestion. Contamination: Easily spread when airborne.	1. Notify others to vacate room or area. 2. Close windows and shut off all portable air circulating devices. 3. Provide temporary barrier and isolate the room. 4. Notify Radiation Safety Officer using 940-565-3282	Decontamination equipment disposal, including surveys carried out by/under supervision of Office of Radiation Safety. Do not re-enter until approved by Radiation Safety Office.
Injuries involving: Radiation Hazard Contamination	Contamination: Wounds usually greatest hazard	1. Wash wound immediately in running water. 2. Call University Police for medical assistance. 3. Notify Radiation Safety Officer using (940) 565-3282 or the Radiation Safety Office.	Permit no one involved in accident to return to work until approved by RSO.
Fire involving: Radiation Will be governed by RSO.	Radiation: Internal hazard	1. Activate fire alarm if suppression of the fire is not possible. 2. Notify all persons in the area at once. 3. Attempt to extinguish fire if possible in a safe manner without risking personnel. 4. Notify Radiation Safety	Emergency activities.