



# Biohazard Spill Response



\*When assessing spill severity consider volume, infectious dose, location, and potential for aerosolization\*

## Major Spill

*(less than 10 ml with no splashing)*

- **Step** away from spill and **alert** all others in the lab. All lab members not associated with spill should leave the laboratory quickly and safely. **Ensure** doors leading to outward areas are closed.
- **Remove** contaminated PPE, turning soiled areas inward, and place in biohazard bag for disposal or laundering.
- **Wash** hands and any other potentially contaminated areas with soap and water.
- **Exit** the laboratory and post “Do Not Enter” signs on all doors. Do not re-enter the lab for 30 minutes.
- **Call** the EHS Emergency Phone at 404-216-5237 for additional guidance if needed.
- **Re-enter** the lab to clean up after 30 minutes
- **Follow cleanup procedure below**

## Minor Spill

*(less than 10 ml with no splashing)*

- **Step** away from spill and **alert** all lab members in the laboratory to stay clear of the contaminated area.
- **Remove** any contaminated PPE, turning soiled areas inward, and place in a biohazard bag for disposal or laundering.
- **Wash** hands and any other potentially contaminated areas with soap and water.
- **Follow cleanup procedure below**

## Cleanup Procedure

1. **Don** a clean lab coat, gloves, and safety glasses.
2. **Cover** spill area with paper towels and pour an appropriate disinfectant on towels and around spill.
3. **Allow** contact time of at least 20 minutes or longer if appropriate for the material and disinfectant.
4. **Wipe** down the surrounding area (cabinets, nearby floor, contain ers, etc.) with disinfectant.
5. **Place** soiled paper towels in a biohazard bin.
6. **Spray** and wipe down the spill area to ensure the entire area has been cleaned.
7. **Remove** and dispose of gloves and thoroughly wash hands.

Report all spills, regardless of severity, to the PI and the EHS Biosafety Team  
[biosafety@ehs.gatech.edu](mailto:biosafety@ehs.gatech.edu)