

Department: Emergency Preparedness	Section:	Subject: Code Brown - Internal Chemical Spill
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POLICY

The purpose of the Code Brown policy and procedure is to define procedures required for the safe containment and management of chemical spills or release. The policy and procedure also ensure a timely, effective and safe response and resolution of the spill.

A Code Brown will be called if there is a serious internal spill/contamination, leak, suspicious or unusual smell, gas, or vapor, or discovery of an unknown substance, liquid or powder that is too large for the person who identifies the spill to clean up.

PROCEDURE

Immediately upon **DISCOVERING A CHEMICAL SPILL:**

- Dial 911 to contact the Charge Nurse, who will be Incident Commander
- Report the location of the spill
- Isolate area
- Identify spill and consult the Material Safety Data Sheet located on all computer desktops



- Avoid walking in spill, skin contact, or breathing vapours/aerosolized product.
- If person or clothing is contaminated, immediately follow decontamination procedures appropriate to the product (identify from the Material Safety Data Sheet prior to working with the product) and seek medical attention as required.
- Obtain spill kit (**lab, penthouse, compressor room, decontamination room, acute care, pharmacy, outside beside the diesel tank**) and don appropriate personal protective equipment including gloves, face shields and, shoe covers. Prevent contamination of person, shoes and clothing.
- Follow procedure in Spill Kit.
- Contact Maintenance or Housekeeping as appropriate. If spill is too large to be dealt with in-house, the Environmental Services Manager or designate will contact the appropriate clean up agency.

- Prevent spreading of the product. Control the source and confine the spill to a small area using spill kit supplies. Apply neutralizing products if appropriate and available.
- Collect product using spill kit supplies.
- Clean residual product from the spill area with water.
- Place all contaminated materials and debris in a polyethylene waste container or bag (note: polyethylene biohazard/autoclave bags are chemically resistant). Dispose of as hazardous waste.

DEBRIEF MEETING: A debrief meeting will take place within 1 business day where possible and will be facilitated by the Emergency Preparedness Manager. Immediate notification must be made to the Departmental Manager and Emergency Preparedness Manager whenever this code is called to ensure timely follow up.