Biohazard Cleanup

The following provides a guideline of the necessary materials and procedures, which will safely facilitate the clean-up of a biohazard spill.

Safety Data Sheet (SDS)

- A file must be maintained of all SDS documents for biohazard material.
- The SDS file must be available to all employees.
- All employees must be made aware of the location of the SDS files.

Biohazard Spill Kit

Biohazard Spill Kits are available from commercial sources, or can be made with the following materials:

- A bottle of an aqueous germicidal solution
- One pair of disposable gloves
- Forceps
- One biohazard bag with closure
- One stack or roll of paper towels

Note: A sharps biohazard container should also be available for the collection of any broken material that could cause a cut or puncture wound (e.g. broken glass vial or tube).

Procedure

1. Notify all people working in the immediate area of the incident.

2. Do not leave the area unattended (unless you are the only individual in the area). Designate another employee to divert traffic from the incident area.

3. After notifying all employees in the immediate area, collect the biohazard spill kit and immediately return to the area.

4. Put on the disposable gloves, and any other personal protective equipment as dictated by regulatory requirements or laboratory procedures.

5. To avoid injury due to broken material, such as packaging or labware, use the forceps to pick up as much material as possible, and carefully place the materials into the sharps biohazard container.

6. Cover area with paper towels to decrease spread of spill and the creation of an aerosol.

7. Saturate the spill area with germicidal solution. Keep the spill area moist with the germicidal solution for the appropriate amount of time as indicated on the germicidal solution used.

8. Wipe up the area with the paper towels. Place all used paper towels in the biohazard bag.

9. Following the cleanup, carefully remove the gloves, and place them into the biohazard bag.

10. Seal the biohazard bag.

11. Dispose of the biohazard bag in compliance with regulatory requirements.