UNMC LABORATORY SAFETY

It is the responsibility of all staff, students and faculty of UNMC to read, understand and comply with UNMC's safety policies, safe work practices, procedures and guidelines. Everyone is responsible to take precaution to protect the safety of other workers and himself/herself.

EXPOSURES

REPORT ALL INJURIES IMMEDIATELY.

Employee Health has an individual on-call 24/7. Contact the **OUCH Pager** at **(402) 888-6824** for post-exposure medical guidance for needle sticks, cuts, biological exposures, or animal bites.

Chemical & Radioactive Exposures:
Contact Security/Public Safety Dispatch at 402-559-5555.

ACCIDENTS, INCIDENTS & NEAR-MISSES

An Incident Report form must be completed for ALL incidents and accidents that occur on campus, which includes near-misses. The Incident Report form can be found on-line at: https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/safety/incident-reporting.html

CHEMICAL SPILLS

Depending on the chemical properties and quantity of the spilled chemical it can create potentially dangerous situations. Therefore, it is important that UNMC personnel are prepared for chemical spill procedures.

Controlled Spills: These are spills of chemicals that are not reasonably expected to be a threat to human health or the environment, the properties are well known, and have been previously determined to be safely cleaned by laboratory personnel.

Controlled Spills, requiring assistance: These are spills of chemicals that are not reasonably expected to pose a threat to human health or the environment, the properties are well known, but they are beyond the capabilities of laboratory personnel.

Uncontrolled Spill: These are spills of chemicals that involve personnel injury, fire or explosion and can pose a threat to human health, the environment or UNMC property. It also includes large uncontrollable chemical spills, unknown chemical spills that are reasonably expected to cause serious injury or damage, or spills of chemicals that are water reactive, pyrophoric, shock sensitive, temperature sensitive, or highly toxic materials and cannot be safely cleaned by laboratory personnel.

TO REPORT A CHEMICAL SPILL, CONTACT SECURITY/PUBLIC SAFETY AT (402) 559-5555.

WASTE HANDLING

Policies and procedures regarding waste within the laboratory can be found in the UNMC Waste Handling policy:
https://wiki.unmc.edu/index.php/Waste_Handling

Biohazard Waste: Biohazardous waste, also called infectious waste or biomedical waste, is any waste containing infectious materials or potentially infectious substances. All solid biohazard waste shall be discarded into red biohazard waste containers, and picked up by EVS. All liquid biohazard waste should be appropriately decontaminated and poured down the drain to the sanitary sewer.

Chemical Waste: Label containers with full chemical names, no abbreviations, the words "Hazardous Waste" and the appropriate GHS hazards or NFPA rating. Do not place incompatible chemicals in the same container. Keep used chemical collection containers closed, except when adding chemical. Store used chemical collection containers in secondary containment. **All flammable chemical waste must be stored in a flammable liquid cabinet.** When container is full, or you are no longer adding to it, complete Green Chemical Collection Tag. Request EHS Chemical Pick-up online at: http://app1.unmc.edu/forms/ehs/cso_pickup.cfm

HAZARD AWARENESS

ALL CONTAINERS CONTAINING CHEMICALS MUST BE CLEARLY LABELED, NO ABBREVIATIONS.

Hazardous materials present physical and/or health threats to workers in clinical, industrial, and academic laboratories. Each laboratory must identify which hazardous materials will be encountered by its workers. Prior to performing any assigned job duties, laboratory personnel should be aware of the hazards present in the laboratory and steps necessary to minimize or eliminate them.

Gather all the necessary information about the experiment, the design of the experiment, and most importantly the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for ALL hazardous substances involved with the experiment. **Safety Data Sheets are available on-line, under the UNMC Intranet homepage, Quick Links tab: Safety Data Sheets.**

Website address: https://msdsmanagement.msdsonline.com/ddb19e69-2fb7-4723-9c8b-e8ff4dd13e03/ebinder/?nas=True

GLOBAL HARMONIZATION SYSTEM (GHS)

The United States is currently participating in the **Global Harmonization System (GHS)** of Classifying and Labeling Chemicals. The biggest visible impact of the GHS is the appearance of and information required for labels and SDSs.

Labels will require signal words, pictograms, precautionary statements and appropriate hazard statements. The goal is that the same set of rules for classifying hazards, and the same format and contents for labels and safety data sheets will be adopted and used around the world.

DECONTAMINATION EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT

Nearest Safety Shower is located:

_____

Nearest Eyewash station is located:

_____

CHEMICAL SPILL KIT

Spill kits should be readily available and stored near the chemical use. It is important that all lab personnel know the location, content, and how to use the spill kit. Spill kits should be inspected at least yearly, to determine viability of supplies.

Designated spill kit location: _____

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

It is important that PPE be selected based upon the hazard to the worker, properly fitted and in some cases periodically refitted (e.g. respirators), conscientiously and properly worn, regularly maintained and replaced in accordance with manufacturer's specifications, properly removed and disposed of to avoid contamination of self, others or the environment.

PPE Available: _____

_____

FIRE – CODE RED

***ALL** fires must be reported by calling 402-559-5555 and/or by pulling the fire alarm pull station.*

In case of fire, **R A C E**:

R – Rescue those in immediate danger.
A – Alert. Pull the fire alarm. Call 402-559-5555.
C – Contain the fire by closing doors.
E – Evacuate or Extinguish the fire.

In the event of an actual fire in a lab, shut off the natural gas serving that lab by closing the gas shut off valve for the area. Restoring the gas to a lab must be coordinated by Facilities so all areas served by the shutoff can be checked. Smell something burning, but see no smoke? Call 402-559-5555. Those who cannot manage stairs can be evacuated to the nearest stair tower landing then report their location to Security/Public Safety Dispatch and request assistance.

The pull station nearest to this lab is located: _____

Nearest Fire Extinguisher is located: _____

Nearest Exit of the building: _____

MUSTER POINT

A muster point is the place everyone should go in an emergency to make sure no one is missing. Those not accounted for should be reported to the Security/Public Safety Officer in charge.

Designated muster point for your lab: _____

SEVERE WEATHER

During severe weather it's very important that your focus be on remaining safe. Each building on campus has a designated severe weather safe area. It is of utmost importance that you know where you will go in the event of severe weather.

Designated Severe Weather Safe Area: _____

24 HOUR EMERGENCY CONTACT SECURITY/ PUBLIC SAFETY (402) 559-5555

Location of the nearest phone, in case of an emergency:

_____

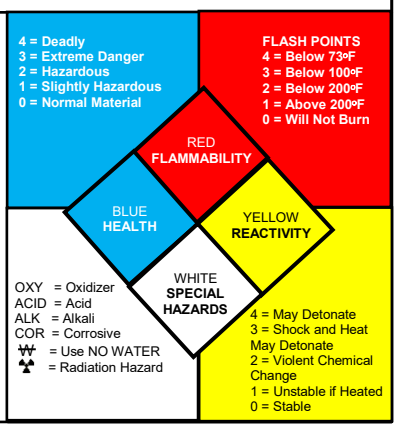
IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Biohazardous Spill	(402) 559-5555
Biosafety Officer	(402) 559-7774
*after hours pager for Biosafety Officer	(402) 888-3504
*if no answer:	*(402) 888-8043*
Cardiac Arrests	(402) 559-5555
Chemical/Radioactive Spills	(402) 559-5555
Employee Health	(402) 552-3563
Environmental Health & Safety (EHS)	(402) 559-6356
Environmental Services (EVS)	(402) 559-4073
Facilities Help Desk	(402) 559-4050
Fume Hood/Biological Cabinets	(402) 559-4050
Gas Odors/Leaks	(402) 559-5555
Infection Control	(402) 559-5276
Information Security	(402) 559-7700
Needle Sticks/Body Fluid Exposures	(402) 888-6824
Poison Control Center	1-800-222-1222
Research Resources Manager	(402) 559-3231
Security/Public Safety Dispatch	(402) 559-5111

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CLASSIFICATION

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704 Diamond is a standard placard that identifies the level of chemical hazard.

NFPA 704 provides criteria for assessing the health, flammability instability, and related hazards that are presented by short-term, acute exposure to a material under conditions of fire, spill, or similar emergencies.



For additional information please contact: Environmental Health & Safety at (402) 559-6356 or unmcehs@unmc.edu

Updated: 07/2020