

VI. Accidents Involving Radiation

A. Radioactive Material Spill

1. The following general procedures shall be followed when a radioactive material is spilled.
 - a. Provide necessary emergency first aid to all serious injuries.
 - b. Evacuate all personnel to an area removed from the effects of the spill, and close all entrances to the spill area.
 - c. If airborne radioactive materials are suspected, close all doors. Turn off hoods and safety cabinets that do not exhaust to the outside.
 - d. Immediately call the RSO/RSS on extension **X1451**. After hours, call Protective Services at extension **X1091**.
 - e. Keep all persons known or suspected of being contaminated confined to one area to prevent the further spread of contamination. Do not allow other persons to enter this area.
2. The RSO/RSS will immediately dispatch personnel and necessary equipment to the scene of the incident and shall perform the following upon arrival at the scene:
 - a. Ascertain that all personnel have been evacuated from the hazard area, ensure that entry into the area has been restricted, and ensure that all serious injuries have received medical attention.
 - b. Monitor all personnel involved in the incident to determine the extent of the contamination. The RSO/RSS will initiate necessary personnel decontamination procedures. The PI or other authorized radiation worker may start monitoring prior to the arrival of the RSO/RSS.
 - c. Evaluate the hazard area.
 - d. Supervise the decontamination and return the laboratory to normal operating conditions.
 - e. Investigate the cause of the incident and report to the RSC on the cause as well as actions taken to prevent such an incident in the future.