Biological Spill Kit Guide

Every Arizona State University laboratory that works with biological materials must be prepared and trained to handle a biological spill.

- Train lab personnel on the location and proper use of this kit. Refer to the quick guide on page two, and the ASU Biological Safety Manual.
- Review additional information about spills that involve bioresearch materials in the IBC Policies and Procedures Manual.
- If respiratory protection is necessary, follow the ASU Respiratory Protection Program guidelines.

This kit includes:

1 – biohazard spill sign
1 – disposable lab coat
1 – disposable pair of shoe covers
6 – hand sanitizing wipes
1 – mini brush and dustpan set
1 – one-liter plastic spray bottle
1 – pack of paper towels
1 – pair of safety googles
2 – pairs medium Nitrile gloves
2 – pairs large Nitrile gloves
1 – safety poster
1 – silicone tongs
1 – 10-gallon biohazard bag

For guidance or kit replacement, contact ASU Biosafety at biosafety@asu.edu or call 480-965-5389.

Arizona State University

Biological Spill Response Quick Guide

To decontaminate a spill, fill the provided spray bottle with a freshly prepared 10 percent bleach solution or other EPA-registered disinfectant.

Spills less than 500 mL | in or outside a biological safety cabinet

1. Remain calm, secure samples and check if you or anyone else has been exposed.
2. Alert others and block off the area.
3. Leave biological safety cabinets on and close the drain valve on the bottom.
4. Remove contaminated personal protective equipment and wash any exposed skin.
5. Put on clean PPE.
6. Place absorbent materials on and around the spill.
7. Pour disinfectant directly onto the absorbent materials.
8. Wait for the appropriate contact time. The wait time for a 10 percent bleach solution is 20 minutes.
9. Discard contaminated absorbent materials into a biohazard bag or container.
10. Use forceps or tongs to remove and place pieces of broken glass in sharps container.
11. Wipe the spill area with disinfectant.
12. Check if the spill has leaked into the lower tray of the BSC.
    a. If necessary, follow the BSC Decontamination Guidelines.
13. Remove gloves and wash hands thoroughly.
14. Report the spill to the laboratory's principal investigator and EHS.
15. Resume work when a supervisor or manager deems it safe.

Spills more than 500 mL | outside a biological safety cabinet

1. Remain calm, secure samples, hold your breath and if no other workers are present, leave the room.
2. Alert other laboratory employees and block off the area.
    a. Post a warning sign that includes your name and phone number.
3. Place contaminated PPE in a biohazard bag.
4. Wash any exposed skin.
5. Notify the laboratory's principal investigator, supervisor and EHS.
6. Wait 30 minutes before re-entering the contaminated area.
7. Put on clean PPE and use respiratory protection if necessary.
8. Prepare the required materials for clean-up.
9. Place absorbent materials on and around the spill.
10. Pour disinfectant directly onto the absorbent materials.
11. Wait for the appropriate contact time. The wait time for a 10 percent bleach solution is 20 minutes.
12. Discard contaminated absorbent materials in a biohazard bag or container.
13. Use forceps or tongs to place pieces of broken glass in sharps container.
14. Wipe the spill area with disinfectant and follow all clean up procedures.
15. Remove gloves and wash hands.
16. Report the spill to the laboratory's principal investigator and EHS.
17. Resume work when a supervisor or manager deems it safe.