

# **BIOLOGICAL SPILL PROCEDURES**

## **Spill Involving Blood or Body Fluids**

- Wear disposable gloves.
- Absorb fluids with disposable towels.
- Clean area of all visible fluids with detergent (soap/water)
- Decontaminate area with a 1:10 dilution of bleach: water if surface is porous, 1:100 if surface is hard, smooth
- Place all disposable materials into a plastic leak-proof bag.

**Always practice “Universal Precautions” when handling human blood or body fluids.**

## **Spill Involving Concentrated Microorganisms Requiring Biosafety Level (BL) 2 Containment (E.Coli, Staphylococcus, bloodborne pathogens, adenoviruses, etc.)**

- Alert people in immediate area of spill.
- Put on protective equipment.
- Cover spill with paper towel or other absorbent materials.
- Carefully pour a freshly prepared 1 in 10 dilution of household bleach around the edges of the spill and then into the spill. Avoid splashing.
- Allow a 20 minute contact period.
- Use paper towels to wipe up the spill, working from the outer edges into the center.
- Clean spill area with fresh towels soaked in disinfectant.
- Place towels in a plastic bag and decontaminate in an autoclave.

## **Spill Involving Concentrated Microorganisms Requiring BL 3 Containment (Mycobacterium tuberculosis (TB) cultures)**

- Attend to injured or contaminated persons and remove them from exposure.
- Alert people in the area to evacuate.
- Close doors to affected area, do not enter area for at least one hour.
- Have a person knowledgeable of the incident and area assist in proper clean-up.
- Wearing gowns, gloves, respirator and shoe covers, clean up spills as indicated for Biosafety Level 2 organisms.

**All employee exposures such as spills, needlesticks, cuts, and splashes to the face must be reported immediately to the Blood/Bodyfluid Exposure Hotline by calling 115 or (919) 684-8115.**

For additional information, please contact the Biological Safety Office at **684-8822**.