

## **Response to incidents involving recombinant DNA**

### **1. Spills involving recombinant DNA**

The following procedures should be followed to insure proper spill clean-up:

#### **Spill involving rDNA materials handled at BSL-1 and BSL-2**

Alert people in immediate area of spill. Put on appropriate protective equipment. Cover spill with paper towel or other absorbent materials. Carefully pour a freshly prepared 1:10 dilution of household bleach or an alternative disinfectant approved by the Occupational and Environmental Safety Office (OESO) 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. Pick up any sharp items with a mechanical device (not hands). Place all clean-up materials in a biohazard bag and autoclave.

#### **Spill involving rDNA materials handled at BSL-3**

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.

### **2. Human exposures to recombinant DNA**

Report any human exposure to rDNA to Employee Occupational Health and Wellness (EOHW, 684-8115) and to the Occupational and Environmental Safety Office (OESO, 684-8822).

Complete the Report of Occupational Injury or Illness form found at <http://www.hr.duke.edu/forms/injury.html>

### **3. Loss, theft, release of recombinant DNA material**

The NIH requires institutions to report incidents involving rDNA materials including loss, theft, or release. This includes both exempt and non-exempt rDNA materials. Report any loss, theft, or release involving rDNA materials to the Occupational and Environmental Safety Office (OESO, 684-8822).