

Biological Spills

Spill Procedures for Custodians

Small Spill: a few drops of blood or fluid

1. Obtain the spill kit needed to address the spill.
2. Put on the appropriate PPE: gloves and safety glasses.
3. Place the absorbent material (paper towels) on top of the spill area.
4. Wipe the area with an absorbent towel and then with the disinfectant (bleach, A33, etc.).
5. Place all items that are dripping with blood into the biohazard bag. Call EH & S at (806) 742-3876 to request a pickup of medical waste.
6. Place all items that are not contaminated or have just a few drops of blood into a clear trash bag. Take the bag directly to the dumpster.
7. Wash your hands with soap and water.

Large Spill: a small puddle of blood or fluid

1. Block off the spill area, warn others not to walk through the spill.
2. Contact a specially trained foreperson for assistance, if needed.
3. Obtain the spill kit needed to address the spill.
4. Put on the appropriate PPE: gloves and safety glasses.
5. Place the absorbent material (paper towels) on top of the spill area.
6. Wipe the area with an absorbent towel and then with the disinfectant (bleach, A33, etc.).
7. Place all items that are dripping with blood into the biohazard bag. Call EH& S at (806) 742-3876 to request a pickup of medical waste.
8. Place all items that are not contaminated or have just a few drops of blood into a clear trash bag. Take the bag directly to the dumpster.
9. Wash your hands with soap and water.

Personal Contamination

1. Remove any contaminated clothing or protective equipment.
2. If skin has been contaminated, wash with soap and warm water.
3. If eyes have been splashed, rinse under running water (eyewash or faucet) for at least 15 minutes.
4. Contact TTU Police at 9-9-1-1 if medical attention is needed.
5. Contact EH&S to report the incident at.

Needle in Regular Trash

If you find a needle in a trash can:

1. Locate a sharps container.
2. Put on gloves and safety glasses.
3. Find a mechanical way to pick up the needle (tweezers, tongs, and pliers).
4. Using the tweezers, lift the needle out of the trash can.
5. Carefully place the needle into the sharps container.
6. Wash the tweezers with A-33.
7. Take off gloves and wash hands with soap and water.

Spill Procedures for Lab Workers

Spill of Human Blood or Body Fluids

1. Put on appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) including double gloves, gown, protective eyewear, and face mask.
2. Control access to area. Prevent people from walking through affected area and thereby tracking the blood or other potentially infectious material to other areas.
3. Contain spill. Use paper towels or other absorbent material to contain spill.
4. Use forceps, plastic scoop, or other mechanical means to remove any broken glass or other sharp objects from the spill area. Take care not to create aerosols. Place these items into a small cardboard box, thick walled plastic bag, or other container that will prevent them from puncturing the red bag (or your hand). Place the contained sharp items into the red bag for disposal. Do not seal bag.
5. Apply appropriate disinfectant. To avoid creating aerosols, never spray disinfectant directly into spilled material. Instead, gently pour disinfectant on top of paper towels covering the spill or gently flood affected area first around the perimeter of the spill, then work disinfectant slowly into spilled material.
6. Allow several minutes of contact time with disinfectant.
7. Pick-up all absorbent material and place carefully in red bag for disposal. Do not seal red bag.
8. Clean affected area again with disinfectant and new paper towels. Place used paper towels in red bag for disposal. Do not seal red bag.
9. Dry area. Place used paper towels in red bag for disposal. Do not seal red bag.
10. Once spill is completely cleaned, place all used spill control equipment in the red bag for disposal. Do not seal red bag.
11. Remove PPE and place in red bag for disposal. Remove PPE in the following order:
 - a. Remove soiled gown.
 - b. Remove outer pair of disposable gloves.
 - c. Remove face mask and protective eyewear.
12. Do not remove PPE from face with soiled gloves. Remove soiled outer gloves first and place them in the red bag for disposal. Use clean inner glove to remove PPE from face. This prevents the introduction of blood or other potentially infectious material to the mucous membranes of the face via a contaminated glove.
13. Once all used PPE, spill control equipment, and other potentially contaminated items are in the red bag seal bag securely for disposal.
14. Wash hands.