



Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the Medical Center

MEDICAL CENTER POLICY NO. 0054

- A. SUBJECT: Hazardous Material Spill/Accident Notification
- B. EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2011 (R)
- C. POLICY:

University of Virginia Medical Center employees and all persons working at the Medical Center are responsible for appropriate and timely communication, as specified below, of hazardous situations resulting from radioactive, chemical, infectious, or other hazardous material spills to protect employees, patients, visitors and physical facilities.

D. PROCEDURE:


1. Any Medical Center employee or any person working at the Medical Center shall be responsible for notifying his/her immediate supervisor or administrator of a hazardous situation in his or her area. For spills of hazardous or potentially hazardous materials (such as mercury, chemotherapeutic agents and other hazardous drugs, other chemicals or radioactive agents), access to the area should be restricted and the following procedures followed:
 - If the spill is small and the individual(s) involved is/are confident of the nature of the spill and has/have the proper means to clean the spill (proper training, spill cleanup kit, and appropriate personal protective equipment), the spill may be cleaned up by this/these individual(s). The individual(s) must contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (OEHS) at 982-4911 to inform OEHS that a clean-up has been performed and to request its assistance in disposing of the materials.
 - If the spill is larger than can be safely cleaned by local personnel or if personnel have not been trained to clean it, the individual(s) involved must contact OEHS. If the spill occurs after 5:00 p.m., the individual(s) involved must contact the emergency operator.
 - For spills of potentially infectious materials (i.e., blood/body fluids), refer to the area's Exposure Control Plan, or call Environmental Services at 982-1555. For off-grounds locations served by Environmental Services, call the housekeeping provider for that facility.
 - For automotive spills, contact Environmental Services at 982-1555.

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- For locations not served by Environmental Services, contact Office of Environmental Health & Safety (982-4911) for guidance.
2. The following information must be provided when calling Environmental Services or the Office of Environmental Health & Safety to report a spill or any event of a hazardous or potentially hazardous nature:
 - Name and phone number of the caller
 - Location of the spill or accident
 - Brief description of the emergency, including any questions regarding exposure
 - For radioactive spill: type of radionuclide and activity
 - For chemical/hazardous drug spill: type of chemical/drug involved and quantity
 - Urgency of clean-up
 3. Individuals from Environmental Services or the OEHS assigned to the clean up of hazardous materials have been trained to comply with state and federal regulations that specify a safe process for clean up. All persons working at the Medical Center shall cooperate with the directions of those individuals assigned to the clean up.
 4. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS), available on all Health System computer desktops and at the Office of Environmental Health and Safety, contain information on how to handle and store chemicals safely.
 5. A Medical Center employee or any person working at the Medical Center injured or exposed by or to the hazardous material must obtain medical attention. Exposures and injuries shall be documented on an Employee Injury Report and reported to Employee Health as soon as possible. A patient or visitor injured or exposed by or to the hazardous material must obtain medical attention at the Emergency Department.

The supervisor over the area involved is responsible for coordinating cleanup activities, controlling hazard expansion through utilization of available resources, and determining if a Quality Report needs to be submitted.

SIGNATURE:



R. Edward Howell, CEO, UVA Medical Center

6/22/11

DATE:

Medical Center Policy No. 0054 (R)

Approved September 1987

Revised August 1990, September 1993, March 1996, July 1998, September 2003, June 2005, June 2008, June 2011

Reviewed November 2000

Approved by Chief Environment of Care Officer

Approved by Medical Center Administration