SPILL PROCEDURES
RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS

>100 ml → Major Spills

1 CLEAR THE AREA
Notify all persons not involved to vacate the room at once.

2 PREVENT THE SPREAD
If a liquid spills, right the container (have hands protected with gloves) and prevent the further spread of contamination by covering the spill with absorbent paper, but DO NOT attempt to clean up the spill. Limit the movement of all personnel who may be contaminated.

3 SHIELD THE SOURCE
Shield the source, if possible. This should be done only without further contamination or significant increase in radiation exposure.

4 CLOSE THE ROOM
Leave the room and lock the door(s) to prevent entry.

5 CALL FOR HELP
Notify Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) immediately.

6 DECONTAMINATE
Decontaminate personnel by removing contaminated clothing and flushing contaminated skin with lukewarm water and then washing with mild soap. If contamination remains, induce perspiration by covering the area with plastic. Then wash the affected area again to remove contamination released by perspiration.

7 FOLLOW UP
The Radiation Safety Officer will supervise cleanup of the spill and will complete the Radioactive Spill Report and the Radioactive Spill Contamination Survey.

<100 ml → Minor Spills

1 NOTIFY
Notify all other persons in the room.

2 PREVENT THE SPREAD
Prevent the spread of contamination by covering the spill with absorbent paper.

3 CLEAN UP
Clean up the spill using disposable gloves and absorbent paper and remote handling tongs. Carefully fold the absorbent paper with the clean side out and place in a plastic bag for later disposal as radioactive waste. Also put contaminated gloves and other contaminated, disposable material in the bag.

4 SURVEY
Survey the area with an appropriate low-range radiation detection survey meter or by wipe tests for removable contamination, as appropriate. Check the area around the spill. Also check your hands, clothing and shoes for contamination.

5 REPORT
Report the incident to Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) immediately.

6 FOLLOW UP
The Radiation Safety Officer will follow up on the cleanup of the spill and will complete the Radioactive Spill Report and the Radioactive Spill Contamination Survey.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

- Environmental Health and Safety 646-962-7233
- Security 212-746-0911

QUESTIONS?

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
CALL 646-962-7233 ONLINE weill.cornell.edu/ehs EMAIL ehs@med.cornell.edu
Weill Cornell Medical College | 402 East 67th Street, Room LA-0020 | New York, NY 10065