

12 MONTHS OF RESEARCH SAFETY JUNE 2023 MERCURY THERMOMETERS

Impact of Mercury

Mercury is a neurotoxin and can also impact an unborn child. Depending on the type of mercury exposure, victims may experience a variety of effects (sensations, motor skills, cognition, etc).

All mercury spills, even small ones, require EH&S to clean-up the space, which includes performing surveys afterwards to ensure no mercury has been left in floor cracks, behind cupboards, under equipment, and on benches. In some cases, the spill requires contracting a specialized vendor, who may not be able to arrive until the next business day.

When cleaning up a mercury spill, the space is closed-off and inaccessible until the entire spill is cleaned up, which can greatly interrupt and impact research.

Identifying Mercury Thermometers

If the spirit inside a thermometer is silver, it is a mercury thermometer. If the spirit inside a thermometer is blue or red, it is an alcohol thermometer.



Replacing your mercury thermometers for FREE



Request Exchange

Protect yourself, your lab, and help UCR become mercury-free by exchanging your mercury thermometers for alcohol thermometers for <u>free</u>. All supplied thermometers have a NIST Statement of Accuracy in the specified range.

Questions?

CONTACTUS

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Website: https://ehs.ucr.edu/laboratory/mercury Report an Incident, Injury or Safety Concern https://ehs.ucr.edu/report