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# Biological Spill Cleanup

## Standard Operating Procedure

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### Spill Kit Contents Checklist

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- Gloves
- Disposable gown (optional)
- Disposable shoe covers (optional)
- Eye protection
- Full face shield (if there is splash risk)
- N-95 respirator (when required and have been properly fitted/enrolled in Respiratory Protection Program)
- Effective disinfectant (freshly made 10% bleach, BUA approved/EPA listed disinfectants, hospital-grade disinfectants, etc.)
- Absorbent paper towels
- Absorbent barrier material or spill pads when working with large volumes
- Small disposable broom with dustpan, tongs, or forceps for sharps collection
- Red biohazard waste bags and biohazard sharps container.
- Signage

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### Biological Spills Inside of Biosafety Cabinet

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1. Keep the biosafety cabinet turned on and do not lower sash.
2. Don appropriate PPE for cleaning up the spill (gloves, lab coats, safety goggles, etc.).
3. If there are any sharps, including broken glass, use forceps or tongs to pick up and place into biohazard sharps container.
4. Place absorbent materials (e.g. paper towels) on and around the spill. Always start placing down absorbent material at the edge of the spill and work inward.
5. Apply an effective disinfectant such as freshly-made 10% (1:10 dilution) bleach solution to the spill and allow it to sit for the approved contact time, depending on the disinfectant. Add from perimeter and work toward the center. Avoid splashing and creation of aerosols.
6. After appropriate contact time, carefully pick up absorbent material and place into red biohazard bag.
7. Disinfect the area again following steps 4-6.  
**Note:** if using bleach as a disinfectant, wipe the area with 70% alcohol or water afterwards to remove bleach residue to prevent corrosion of your biosafety cabinet.
8. Wipe the area with paper towels to dry.



9. Dispose all waste into a red biohazard bag.
10. Remove gloves and put into red biohazard bag.
11. Wash hands.
12. Report the spill to your PI/Lab Manager/Supervisor

## Biological Spills Outside of Biosafety Cabinet

1. Notify all personnel in the area that a spill has occurred and evacuate everyone in the immediate vicinity.
2. Remove any contaminated clothing and wash exposed areas with mild soap and water for 5 minutes.
3. Post signage and close door to room to prevent anyone from entering space.
4. Wait 30 minutes to allow droplets to settle and aerosols to vent.
5. Don appropriate PPE for cleaning up the spill (e.g. gloves, lab coat, safety goggles, etc.). Consider wearing shoe covers to prevent transferring/tracking of spill onto your shoes.
6. If there are any sharps, including broken glass, use forceps or tongs to pick up and place into biohazard sharps container.
7. Place absorbent materials (e.g. paper towels) on and around the spill. Always start placing down absorbent material at the edge of the spill and work inward.
8. If it is a large spill, use larger absorbent pads (e.g. Pig Pads) or barriers to contain spill.
9. Apply an effective disinfectant such as freshly made 10% bleach to the absorbent material covering the spill and allow it to sit for the appropriate contact time (30 minutes for bleach). Add from perimeter and work toward the center. Avoid splashing and creation of aerosols.
10. After appropriate contact time, pick up absorbent material and dispose into red biohazard bag.
11. Disinfect the area again following steps 7-10.
12. Consider using a mop with disinfectant to mop the floor around the spill area to disinfect any aerosols that might have landed on the floor around the spill.
13. Remove gloves and place into red biohazard bag.
14. Wash hands
15. Report the spill to your PI/Lab Manager/Supervisor and EH&S.

### **EH&S contact information**

Phone: (951) 827-5528

Email: [ehsbiosafety@ucr.edu](mailto:ehsbiosafety@ucr.edu)

Website: <https://ehs.ucr.edu/> ('Report a Incident, Injury, or Safety Concern' link at top of page)



# Acknowledgement

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*By signing below I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the procedures and practices described in this document.*

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**Principal Investigator**

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**Date**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>