

Follow These Steps for Biological, Chemical, and Radiological Exposures

Medical life-threatening emergencies call 911



1. Provide First Aid Immediately

Sharps injury *e.g., needlestick, bite, scratch, puncture wound*

- Scrub exposed area thoroughly for 15 minutes using warm water and sudsing soap.

Skin exposure *to chemical, biological, or radioactive materials*

- Use the nearest safety shower for 15 minutes. Stay under the shower and remove clothing. Use a clean lab coat or spare clothing for cover-up.

Eye exposure *to chemical, biological, radioactive materials*

- Use the eye wash for 15 minutes while holding eyelids open.

Inhalation *of chemical, biological, or radioactive materials*

- Move out of contaminated area. Get medical help.

2. Get Help (*share details of exposure e.g., agent, dose, route, time since exposure, SDS*)

Medical emergencies involving chemical exposures call 911 or go to emergency room.

For sharps injuries and biological and radiological exposures do the following:

During Business hours:

- (Includes SLU) Call the UW Employee Health Center at 206-685-1026.
- At Harborview sites call 206-744-3081.
- Radiological exposures also call Radiation Safety at 206-543-0463.

Outside of Business hours or if Employee Health Center is closed:

- Chemical and radiological exposures: call 911 or go to nearest emergency room.
- Biological exposures: go to nearest emergency room or call 911.

Notify your supervisor as soon as possible for assistance. **Secure area before leaving.**

3. Report Incident to Environmental Health & Safety

If serious accident, hospitalization or fatality, after providing first aid and/or getting help, notify EH&S immediately.

- During business hours call 206-543-7262. Outside of business hours call 206-685-UWPD (8973) to be routed to the EH&S Staff on Call.
- **For incidents involving recombinant DNA (recDNA)**, including exposures from animals that previously received recDNA, notify EH&S Research and Occupational Safety as soon as possible at 206-221-7770.

For all incidents and near misses, complete UW Online Accident Report within 24 hours at <http://www.ehs.washington.edu/ohsoars/index.shtm>.

