



Laboratory Standard Operating Procedure for:

Reproductive Toxins

Principal Investigator (PI) Approval is Required Prior to Performing this Procedure

Description

This standard operating procedure outlines the handling and use of reproductive toxins. Review this document and supply the information required in order to make it specific to your laboratory. In accordance with this document, laboratories should use appropriate controls, personal protective equipment, and disposal techniques when handling reproductive toxins.

Reproductive hazards are substances which affect the reproductive capabilities including chromosomal damage (mutagens) and effects on the fetus (teratogens).

Potential Hazards

A reproductive toxin as defined by OSHA as a substance or agent that may affect the reproductive health of women or men or the ability of couples to have healthy children. There are specific MIOSHA standards for 1,2-Dibromo-3 Chloropropane and ethylene oxide.

Engineering Control

Where the eyes or body of any person may be exposed to reproductive hazards, suitable facilities for quick drenching or flushing of the eyes and body shall be provided within the work area for immediate emergency use. Bottle type eyewash stations are not acceptable.

All areas where reproductive hazards are stored or manipulated must be labeled as a designated area.

When possible, handle reproductive hazards in a fume hood. Manipulation of reproductive hazards outside of a fume hood may require special ventilation controls in order to minimize exposure to the material. Fume hoods provide the best protection against exposure to reproductive hazards in the laboratory and are the preferred ventilation control device. If the use of a fume hood proves impractical, attempt to work in a glove box or Biological Safety Cabinet.

The Biological Safety Cabinet is designed to remove particulates (the reproductive hazard) before the air is discharged into the environment. Reproductive hazards that are volatile must not be used in a biological safety cabinet unless the cabinet is vented to the outdoors.

Certain reproductive hazards must be handled in a glove box rather than a fume hood. Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at (313) 593-4914 or the Principal Investigator will determine if this is required. If your research does not permit the handling of reproductive hazards in a fume hood, biological safety cabinet, or glove box, you must contact EHS.

Evacuated glassware can implode and eject flying glass, and splattered chemicals. Vacuum work involving reproductive hazards must be conducted in a fume hood, glove box or isolated in an acceptable manner. Mechanical vacuum pumps must be protected using cold traps and, where appropriate, filtered to prevent particulate release. The exhaust for the pumps must be vented into an exhaust hood.

Work Practice Controls

Doorways: The laboratory must contain a *Designated Area* label or sign for areas where carcinogens, reproductive hazards, and/or highly toxic chemicals are stored or used. Labels or signs may go on the door sign or by the area where the chemicals are stored or used. See the [Highly Toxic Chemicals SOP](#) for more information.

Containers: All containers of reproductive hazards must be clearly labeled with the correct chemical name. Handwritten labels are acceptable; chemical formulas and structural formulas are not acceptable.

When feasible, reproductive hazards should be manipulated over plastic-backed disposable paper work surfaces. These disposable work surfaces minimize work area contamination and simplify clean up.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Lab coats, closed toed shoes, long pants, and long sleeved clothing must be worn when handling reproductive hazards. Additional protective clothing should be worn if the possibility of skin contact is likely.

Gloves should be worn when handling reproductive hazards. Disposable nitrile gloves provide adequate protection against accidental hand contact with small quantities of most laboratory chemicals..

Eye protection in the form of safety glasses must be worn at all times when handling reproductive hazards. Ordinary (street) prescription glasses do not provide adequate protection. (Contrary to popular opinion these glasses cannot pass the rigorous test for industrial safety glasses.) Adequate safety glasses must meet the requirements of ANSI Z.87. 1 1989 and must be equipped with side shields. Safety glasses with side shields do not provide adequate protection from splashes; therefore, when the potential for a splash hazard exists, other eye protection and/or face protection must be worn.

Transportation and Storage

Reproductive hazards must be stored in a designated area.

Waste Disposal

Because most spent, unused and expired chemicals/materials are considered hazardous wastes, they must be properly disposed of. ***Do not dispose of chemical wastes by dumping them down a sink, flushing in a toilet or discarding in regular trash containers.*** Contact EHS at (313) 593-0921 for waste containers, labels, manifests, waste collection and for any questions regarding proper waste disposal. Also refer to EHS's [Hazardous Waste Webpage](#) for more information.

Exposures/Unintended Contact



If the employee is in need of emergency medical attention, call 911 immediately.



For an actual chemical exposure/injury:

- Flush exposed eyes or skin with water for at least 15 minutes, then seek medical attention (see below).
- In case of inhalation, seek medical attention.
- If swallowed, DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING unless directed to do so by medical personnel. **Obtain urgent medical attention.**

Report all work related accidents, injuries, illnesses or exposures to WorkConnections within 24 hours by completing and submitting the [Illness and Injury Report Form](#). Follow the directions on the WorkConnections website [Forms Instructions](#) to obtain proper medical treatment and follow-up.

Complete the [EHS Laboratory Incident and Near-Miss Report](#) form.

TREATMENT FACILITIES:

Midwest Medical Center -- *Campus Employees (including student employees)*

Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 4:30 pm

9301 Middlebelt Road

Romulus, MI 48174

Phone: 734-941-1000

After hours - go to:

Midwest Medical Center

Open 24/7

4700 Schaefer

Dearborn, MI 48126

Phone: 313-581-2600

Henry Ford Medical Center-Fairlane -- *University students (non-life threatening conditions)*

19401 Hubbard Drive

Dearborn, MI 48126

Phone: 313-928-8278

Click [here](#) for more information.

Spill Procedures

- When a spill occurs, ***personal safety should always come first.***
- Alert and clear everyone in the immediate area where the spill occurred.

A **minor (small) chemical spill** is one that the laboratory staff is capable of handling safely without the assistance of safety and emergency personnel, i.e., (*less than 1 Gallon or 3.5 Liters*). A **major/large chemical spill** requires active assistance from emergency personnel.

Spill Response Steps:

MINOR CHEMICAL SPILL

- Alert people in immediate area of spill.
- If spilled material is flammable, turn off ignition and heat sources. Don't light Bunsen burners or turn on other switches.

- Open outside windows, if possible.
- Use proper personal protective equipment (PPE) as indicated above.
- Avoid breathing vapors from spill.
- Confine spill to as small an area as possible.
- **Do not wash spill down the drain.**
- Use appropriate spill kits/sorbents to absorb spill. Collect contaminated materials and residues and place in container. Contact EHS (313) 593-0921 for proper disposal. For powdered chemicals sweep carefully to avoid generation of dust or, if appropriate, use moist sorbent pads or wet the powder with a suitable solvent and then wipe with a dry cloth. Label and manifest waste and contact EHS (313) 593-0921 for proper disposal.
- Clean spill area with water.

MAJOR CHEMICAL SPILL

Report large chemical spills (*greater than 1 Gallon or 3.5 Liters*) in corridors or common areas, e.g., hallways, elevators, eating areas, rest rooms, offices, etc., to Public Safety at (313) 593-5333 (*or 911 campus phone*).

- Attend to injured or contaminated persons and remove them from exposure.
- Alert people in the laboratory to evacuate.
- If spilled material is flammable, turn off ignition and heat sources. Don't light Bunsen burners or turn on other switches.
- **Call Public Safety at 911 immediately for assistance.**
- Close doors to affected area.
- Post warnings to keep people from entering the area.
- Have person available that has knowledge of incident and laboratory to assist emergency personnel.

Additional Spill Links:

- [Chemical Spill Control Information](#)

Report all emergencies, suspicious activity, injuries, spills, and fires to Public Safety by calling at (313) 593-5333 or 911 from a campus phone. Register with the University of Michigan-Dearborn [Emergency Alert System](#).

Training of personnel

All personnel are required to complete the ***Comprehensive Laboratory Safety*** session (**BLS009** or equivalent) via [MyLINC](#). Furthermore, all personnel shall read and fully adhere to this SOP when handling reproductive toxins.

Certification

I have read and understand the above SOP. I agree to contact my Supervisor or Lab manager if I plan to modify this procedure.

Name	Signature	UM ID #	Date

Principal Investigator _____

Revision Date _____