

College of Forestry 370: Medical Attention and Surveillance

Safety Policy & Procedure Manual
Section 300: Laboratory Safety
Effective: 01 January 2007
Revised: August 2014

PURPOSE

The purpose of this section is to provide the procedure for providing medical attention to any person who is injured as a result of any laboratory activities either as an accident or over-exposure.

Background Information

Medical attention and surveillance are regulated under Oregon Administrative Rules Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division, Division 2, subdivision D (437-007-0300).

Applicability

All academic, research, students, and visitors in the College of Forestry

Procedure

Medical Attention

1. An opportunity to receive medical attention from a licensed physician is available to all employees who work with hazardous chemicals in the laboratory.
2. The opportunity for medical attention will be made available to employees at no cost and without loss of pay under the following circumstances:
 - a. Whenever an employee develops signs or symptoms associated with a hazardous agent to which the employee may have been exposed in the laboratory;
 - b. Whenever there is a spill, leak, explosion or other occurrence resulting in the likelihood of an exposure hazardous to health or if a PEL is exceeded. A medical examination must be provided in the event a PEL is exceeded in a personal exposure.

Medical Surveillance Programs

Medical surveillance will be established when exposure monitoring determines a need or if it is likely that an exposure to a hazardous chemical has occurred.

Accidents

Injuries or Over-exposures (Aid to Employees)

1. An exposure exceeding an OSHA PEL is an "over-exposure."
2. If an employee is seriously injured or incapacitated, call 911 to obtain emergency medical treatment. Never enter an enclosed space where a person appears unconscious without assistance from University Public Safety (call 7-7000).
3. Chemical splashes require immediate flushing of the affected areas. 15 minutes of flushing for significant splashes or any splash in the eye is recommended. Eye wash stations and lab deluge showers are intended for this purpose. There are exceptions that should have been covered in training, if relevant.
4. For minor injuries, treat with the laboratory first aid kit or take the person to the hospital or their personal physician. Treatment should prevent exposure to chemicals if the injured person will continue to work in the lab prior to healing (e.g. , a cut on the finger will be covered by a bandage and the person will wear a plastic glove until the cut is fully healed).

5. Most injuries or over-exposure events require completion of an "Report of Accident" form ([Reference 3](#)) that can be obtained from your administrative office.

B. Accident or Over-exposure Investigations

Accident or over-exposure investigations ([Reference 3](#)) will be conducted by the immediate supervisor with assistance from other personnel as deemed necessary.