

DS Fact Sheet on High-Level Hazard/Low-level Hazard Spills in the Lab

National Institutes of Health • Office of Research Services (ORS) • Division of Safety (DS)

Is the Spill a High-Level Hazard or Low-level Hazard? Answer the questions below.

(Chemicals without GHS pictograms on the label are nonhazardous and can be cleaned by the lab).

Call IRF-Frederick Security Control Center (SCC) by dialing 0 and instruct them to contact the Fort Detrick Fire and Emergency Services HAZMAT Team and DS for spills involving:

1. Unknown chemical
2. Particularly Hazardous Substances (PHS) (Carcinogen, reproductive toxins, and acutely hazardous toxins).
3. Your answer to any of the below questions is "NO".

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CLEAN UP!

- Follow the appropriate emergency procedures for individuals who have been exposed.
- Evacuate and cordon off the area, closing doors and windows as you evacuate.
- Prevent others from entering the area.

YES		NO
	Is the person(s) involved with the spill onsite?	
	Spill does not contain pyrophoric or reactive material?	
	Spill does not contain highly volatile liquid or aerosolized powder.	
	Spill does not contain highly corrosive chemicals (e.g., concentrated nitric acid ($\geq 65\%$), hydrofluoric acid, or sulfuric acid (fuming) etc.).	
	Is spill <500 ml outside containment or <1 liter inside containment?	
	Is the spill contained within the lab?	
	Are the correct and adequate spill cleanup materials available?	
	Is the person cleaning the spill trained, familiar with the hazards of the material spilled, and comfortable in performing the cleanup?	
	<div>If you answer YES to all the questions, this is a Low-Level Hazard Spill. It is okay to clean it up.</div>	<div>If you answer NO to just ONE question, this is a High-Level Hazard Spill. <u>Call IRF-SCC by dialing 0 to report the spill.</u></div>