

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS - LAWRENCE CAMPUS

PART I - General Laboratory Safety Plan

*Section 5) Exposure Assessment/Medical Surveillance

*5.1) Exposure Assessments

A laboratory person's exposure to Hazardous Materials/Radiations must be assessed through proper monitoring or dose reconstruction procedures if overexposure has occurred, or if there is a reason to believe that it has occurred or might occur. In some cases, continuous monitoring is required while occupying a designated area or room.

*5.1.1) Initial Monitoring

Authorized Laboratory Supervisors shall contact EHS to initiate appropriate exposure monitoring when:

5.1.1.1) A laboratory person exhibits signs or symptoms of overexposure to a chemical, biohazard or radiations used in the lab.

5.1.1.2) A person will be working with a hazardous material/radiation for which there is a regulatory standard that requires specific exposure monitoring.

a) See Chapter 11 of Part IV for monitoring required for users of sources of ionizing radiation.

5.1.1.3) There is reason to believe that the person's level of exposure to a hazardous chemical, biohazard or laser beam has exceeded or will exceed an OSHA Action Level or OSHA Permissible Exposure Level or some other applicable standard such as ANSI Z-136. Note: Any acute exposure deemed to be an emergency should be treated as an emergency and the procedures of section 2.9 shall be followed.

EHS shall:

5.1.1.4) Make recommendations for corrective actions or alternative procedures if initial monitoring indicates a problem and obtain medical consultation if needed.

Each Authorized Laboratory Supervisor shall:

5.1.1.5) Follow the recommended corrective actions.

5.1.2) Periodic Monitoring

EHS may:

5.1.2.1) Require or conduct additional monitoring to establish effectiveness of the corrective actions and periodically thereafter if required by a particular regulatory standard.

Note: Required ongoing contamination monitoring and exposure monitoring for Authorized Radiation Users is covered under 5.1.1.2 a) above.

*5.1.3) Notification of Exposure Monitoring Results

EHS shall:

5.1.3.1) Notify the laboratory person and supervisor in writing of the outcome of any exposure monitoring for hazardous chemicals or the results of dose reconstructions for other hazards within 15 days of the receipt of those results.

5.1.3.2) Provide an annual radiation exposure report for any individual participating in the Personnel Dosimetry Program under the Radiation Safety Plan.

***5.2) Medical Surveillance**

Any person who regularly and frequently handles toxicologically significant quantities of chemicals or biohazards or works where hazardous laser beams are present should notify EHS so that a determination can be made as to whether the person should consult a qualified physician about undergoing routine medical surveillance.

***5.2.1) Medical Consultation & Examinations**

Authorized Laboratory Supervisors should:

5.2.1.1) Advise prospective laboratory users/occupants/visitors concerning medical or physical conditions that might place them at higher risk from the hazards known to be present in the laboratory and offer the opportunity to discuss what reasonable accommodations, if any, can be made. This may require consultation with EHS, medical authorities, and legal counsel in some cases. If information about the medical condition of the laboratory users/occupants/visitors is needed, such request should only occur after the University has made its offer of employment, whether the offer is conditional or not upon passing of any required medical examination. Examples of conditions that might require evaluation include physical disabilities, known allergies, pregnancy, or chronic medical conditions.

Authorized Laboratory Supervisors shall:

5.2.1.1) Provide an opportunity for all laboratory users/occupants who work with Hazardous Materials/Radiations to receive appropriate medical consultation, including any follow-up examinations that the examining physician determines to be necessary, whenever:

- a) A laboratory person develops signs or symptoms associated with a hazardous material/radiation to which the person may have been exposed in the laboratory.
- b) Exposure assessment monitoring reveals an exposure level above the applicable action level or permissible exposure level.
- c) A spill, leak, explosion, or other event takes place in the laboratory that results in the likelihood of a hazardous exposure.

5.2.1.2) Arrange for all medical consultations and examinations to be:

- a) Performed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed physician.
- b) Provided at no cost to the laboratory person, without loss of pay, and at a reasonable time and place.
- c) Reported to EHS and the Unit Safety Coordinator.

*5.2.2) Information to Physician

The exposed person and the Authorized Laboratory Supervisor shall:

5.2.2.1) Provide the following information to the examining physician:

- a) Identity of the hazardous chemical(s), biological agents, and/or radiations to which the person may have been exposed.
- b) Description of the conditions under which the exposure occurred, including quantitative exposure data if available.
- c) Description of the signs and symptoms of exposure that the person is experiencing.

*5.2.3) Physician's Written Opinion

The Authorized Laboratory Supervisor shall:

5.2.3.1) Obtain from the examining physician a written opinion that includes the following:

- a) Any recommendation for further medical follow-up.
- b) The results of the medical examination and any associated tests.
- c) Any medical condition that may be revealed in the course of the examination that may place the person at increased risk as a result of exposure to a hazardous chemical found in the laboratory.

d) A statement that the person has been informed by the physician of the consultation/examination results and is aware of any medical condition that may require further examination or treatment.

Note: The written opinion shall not reveal specific findings of diagnoses unrelated to laboratory exposure.

e) Forward a copy of the written opinion to EHS and the Unit Safety Coordinator.

***5.3) Medical Emergencies/Assistance**

*5.3.1) Medical emergencies/assistance shall be handled in accordance with procedures identified in section 2.9.5 of Chapter 2 of this manual. See also 2.9.1.4 for non-emergency medical situations.

5.3.2) Contact KU Public Safety - (911).