



Emergency Procedures

Emergencies can happen in the laboratory. It is important to be familiar with and practice emergency response for emergencies that could occur while working in the laboratory. Laboratory situations can include weather-related, facility-related, and medical emergencies.

Facility-Related Emergencies

For facility-related emergencies:

- Stop what you are doing.
- Secure hazardous materials or dangerous equipment.
- Properly remove potentially contaminated PPE.
- Notify the required personnel as soon as possible. Depending on laboratory position, contact other lab personnel before exiting.
- Follow your laboratory's exit procedures.



Exposure-Incident Responses

Percutaneous Injury

- Remove contaminated PPE properly.
- Wash the affected area with soap and water for 15 minutes.
- Follow laboratory exit procedures. Post a spill sign at the laboratory entry, if applicable.
- Follow your laboratory's procedures for notifying the required personnel.
- Proceed to a healthcare provider immediately.
- Follow spill cleanup procedures, if appropriate.

Ingestion Exposure

- Remove contaminated PPE properly.
- Rinse your mouth with water.
- Follow your laboratory's procedures for notifying the required personnel.
- Proceed to a healthcare provider immediately.



This job aid is a component of the free, on-demand CDC training course "[Fundamentals of Laboratory Safety](https://reach.cdc.gov/training)." Find the course at <https://reach.cdc.gov/training>.