### Chemotherapy Spill Response:

Antineoplastic Spills Outside Of A Fume Hood

Lisa Hudley, RN

Training Coordinator

Safety & Environmental Compliance

William Guess
Director
Safety & Environmental Compliance

Spills must be cleaned up immediately by properly protected and trained personnel. Spills should be cleaned using contents in the spill kit. All other persons should leave the area.

# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT NEEDED:

- Tyvek or disposable gown
- Shoe covers
- Safety glasses/goggles/face shield
- Two pairs chemo approved gloves (nitrile or latex)
- Absorbent pads
- Dust pan and hand held brush
- 2 Yellow chemotherapy bags
- I Large ziplock bag
- Hazardous Drug Waste labels
- N95 mask/half or full face respirator

### **SPILL RESPONSE:**

- Alert everyone in the work area
- Isolate the area of the spill
- Obtain chemotherapy spill kit
- Put on double gloves & eye protection
- If the spill is > 5 ml. or covers more than one square foot, put on Tyvek gown and shoe covers.
   Tuck sleeves into the outer glove.
- A NIOSH-certified respirator must be used when there is any danger of airborne powder or an aerosol being generated. A N95, R95, or P95 dust mask should be worn for respiratory protection during a spill cleanup.

- If liquid, clean up with disposable absorbent toweling or absorbent pillow. The absorbent should be placed gently on the spill so that liquid is not splashed. Additional chux pads may be used if needed.
- If solid, cover and wipe with wet (with water) absorbent gauze.
- Place the pad(s) with the absorbent chemotherapy material in one of the yellow chemotherapy bags.
- All contaminated surfaces should be cleaned thoroughly with detergent solution 3 times and rinsed with clean water.

- Place other (personal) contaminated clothing in a sealed plastic bag. If it will be laundered, double bag for transport, then wash twice before combining with other laundry. If it will be discarded, place it in the plastic bag.
- Any broken glass should be <u>swept up</u> and placed in a sharps container.
- Non-cleanable items, including supplies that may have been contaminated, must be put in yellow bag.
- Glassware or other contaminated items should be placed in a plastic bag so that they do not spread the spill, transferred to the sink, and then carefully washed with an appropriate detergent. Avoid splashing while washing.

- Remove the shoe covers and outer pair of gloves. Place these into the chemotherapy plastic bag.
- Remove the goggles and place them into the chemotherapy plastic bag.
- Close the plastic bag by knotting or using twist tie or tape, then place it into the second chemotherapy bag.
- Remove the tyvek gown and inner gloves.
   Place these into the second bag. Close the outer bag.
- Wash hands thoroughly.

- Upon completion of the cleanup, the bags should go to medical waste area for storage & disposal and need to be in transport containers properly labeled for chemotherapy waste disposal. The Housekeeping Department should be notified to perform any final cleanup of the area.
- All items contaminated with antineoplastic agents should be disposed of as hazardous chemical waste and labeled as such.
- Contact the Safety & Environmental Compliance department to obtain a replacement spill kit.
- In the event of a spill, the employee primarily involved will document the incident by filling out an incident report.
- The incident report should then be given to their supervisor or manager.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

- Obvious contamination of gloves, clothing, skin or eyes will be treated as follows:
- Remove contaminated gloves or clothing (immediately).
- Wash the affected skin area with copious amounts of soap (not germicidal cleaner) and lukewarm water. For eye exposure, immediately flush the affected eye with water or normal saline for at least 15 minutes.

#### SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

- For direct skin or eye contact, obtain medial attention as soon as possible.
- Fill out the appropriate Incident Report form and submit to supervisor or manager.

### **VETERINARY WORKERS:**

May be exposed to hazardous drugs when they handle drug vials, compound, administer, or dispose of hazardous drugs; clean up spills; touch surfaces that are contaminated with these drugs; or clean bedding, cages, kennels, or waste of treated animals.

### **VETERINARY WORKERS:**

 Many hazardous drugs and their metabolites can be excreted in urine and feces for up to 72 hours or more.

 Oral medications may be present in vomitus for several hours.

# WASTE CLEANING & DISPOSAL CONTINUED:

- Avoid using sprayers or pressure washers to clean the cages, kennels or stalls of chemo treated animals to minimize the aerosolization of hazardous wastes.
- Clean the cages and kennels of chemo treated animals with disposable towels if possible and use disposable towels to clean bodily waste from treated animals.

# CLEANING & WASTE DISPOSAL CONTINUED:

- Chemo contaminated animal bedding should be removed from the cage inside a chemical fume hood or Class II BSC.
- The contaminated bedding should be collected inside a yellow chemo waste bag labeled for incineration.
- Any dry waste (paper, cardboard, etc.) which is trace contaminated from inside an animal cage should be collected inside a yellow chemo waste bag labeled for incineration.

# CLEANING & WASTE DISPOSAL CONTINUED:

- The first cage changing should be done 72 hours post chemo administration by animal care personnel inside a chemical fume hood or Class II BSC.
- After all debris has been removed from the cage it should be sprayed with a detergent solution and wiped down with paper towels.
- The contaminated rags or paper towels should be placed into yellow chemo bag for incineration.