

# Safetygram

NCI Frederick

ISM158

Laboratory Personnel

December 2011

## Safe Handling and Transport of Hazardous Materials

- Within your laboratory
- Within your building
- Between buildings at NCI Frederick

Handle all potentially hazardous materials, i.e. biological, chemical, or radiological, in a manner that prevents accidental splashes or spills. Biological materials include pathogenic and non pathogenic agents and human or animal cell lines or tissues.

### Hazardous Materials Moved Within a Laboratory

- Carry containers in racks, trays, or pans
- Seal tubes with Parafilm or a tight fitting cap to contain the contents

### Hazardous Materials Moved Within a Building

- Place the primary container in a suitable sealed, leak proof secondary container (a plastic tub or tray with a tight fitting lid works well).

### Hazardous Materials Moved Between Buildings

- Place hazardous materials upright in a suitable secondary container with caps or lids tightly closed.
- If the chemicals are highly toxic, potential carcinogens, or highly reactive, place them in a non breakable, impermeable, tightly closed secondary container that will completely contain all liquids or solids if the primary container leaks or breaks.
- Take care to properly cushion the contents and not overload either the primary or secondary container.
- Radioactive materials must be contained and transported to prevent any release of radioactivity.

- When transporting biological materials within the facility, primary receptacles may be glass, metal or plastic. The primary receptacle shall be placed in secondary container. The secondary packaging, containing the primary receptacle, may then be wrapped in absorbent material, prior to placement in the transport container, to ensure minimal risk of breakage during transport. The transport container must be sealable, leak proof and break resistant. Transport containers must be marked durably and legibly, with the name and telephone number of a person responsible for the material, and with applicable warning labels. In the event of a spill of biological materials in transport, call EHS at x1451. If a potential exposure occurs notify OHS at x1096.
- Clearly mark all containers as to contents, e.g., “Biological Specimen” or “Biohazard”. Take these extra steps to prevent accidental splashes and spills. You may be preserving your research and your researchers!

For more information pertaining to the transportation of other hazardous materials or transportation of materials outside of the facility, refer to NCI Frederick Policy and Procedure #511.

If you have any questions, please call EHS at x1451.