

# BIOLOGICAL SPILL



Biological spills outside of biological safety cabinets (tissue culture hoods) can generate aerosols that can be dispersed throughout the laboratory.










*Proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) required to decontaminate spills involving-*

BL-1 agents: Safety glasses, disposable gloves, and lab coats.

BL-2 agents: Disposable long sleeve gown, booties, safety glasses, dust mask or face shield, and gloves.

## **SPILLS INVOLVING A MICROORGANISM REQUIRING BL-1 OR BL-2 CONTAINMENT**

*Moderate risk agents associated with diseases of varying severity, such as Hepatitis B virus, salmonellae. Includes human blood and body fluids.*

-  Alert people in immediate area of spill.
-  Put on protective equipment and double pairs of gloves.
-  Cover spill with paper towels or other absorbent materials.
-  Carefully pour freshly prepared 1 in 10 dilution of household bleach around the edges of the spill and then into the spill.
-  Allow a 20-minute contact period.
-  Wipe down any contaminated stationary equipment or furniture with disinfectant. Use forceps, tongs, or broom to remove broken glass and other items, place in sharps container or red bag.
-  **Use paper towels to wipe up the spill, working from the edges into the center.**
-  Clean spill area with fresh towels soaked in disinfectant.
-  Place towels and disposable PPE into a plastic bag and decontaminate in an autoclave.

(material adapted from 'Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories', 4<sup>th</sup> ed., 1999. Centers for Disease Control.)