

# Biological Spill in a Centrifuge – Clean Up Protocol

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## Spills in a Centrifuge

- a) Assess situation and personal contamination. Ensure risk of injury is controlled prior to initiating spill clean up.
- b) Remove any contaminated and potentially contaminated PPE and clothing.
- c) If sleeves are contaminated, lab coat or gown should be removed and placed in an autoclave bag for decontamination.
- d) Notify all staff in the immediate vicinity of the spill and have everyone leave the area for 30 minutes to allow for aerosol settling, using normal exit procedures.
- e) Exposed personnel should wash any potentially exposed skin areas thoroughly with soap and running water.
- f) Exposed persons should be referred to immediate medical attention.
- g) Inform the laboratory supervisor or responsible authority immediately.
- h) Post a sign forbidding entry to immediate spill area for the settling period.
- i) After 30 minutes has elapsed, don fresh, inspected, risk-appropriate PPE (double glove, closed toed shoes, laboratory coat, and eye protection minimum). LRA will determine if more is needed (e.g. a respirator).
- j) If the spill involves body fluids, blood, or human cells, ensure adequate skin coverage and wear a face mask in addition to the above listed PPE.
- k) Consult the operating manual to identify a decontaminating solution that will be both effective against the offending pathogen and that will not compromise aspects of the centrifuge itself.
- l) Assemble the biological spill kit and bring it to the spill site.
- m) Disinfect centrifuge components using paper towel soaked in the selected disinfectant.
- n) Allow for appropriate contact time.
- o) After contact time has elapsed, carefully remove the towels/cloth and if there is broken glass remove using a dustpan and broom, forceps etc.
- p) Clean and disinfect the area and dispose of the contaminated materials in a leak-proof, puncture resistant waste disposal container. Repeat if necessary.
- q) Remove contaminated PPE and don clean PPE.
- r) After disinfection notify the laboratory supervisor and the BSO that the site has been decontaminated.