



# TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

## A Commonwealth University

### Environmental Health and Safety

## BASIC RADIATION SAFETY

Temple University must abide by the regulations of the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to use radioactive material. The regulations require that each employee be kept informed of the presence of radioactive material in the workplace and the precautions to observe while in the radioactive material area. Some guidelines for radiation safety are as follows:

#### ALL NEW EMPLOYEES MUST KNOW:

- How to recognize the presence of radioactive material
- Precautions to observe in radioactive material area
- Personal safety during their daily work routines
- Steps to follow if accidentally involved with radioactive material

#### HOW TO RECOGNIZE THE PRESENCE OF RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL:

- Warning - CAUTION – RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL
- Color - Yellow background with magenta, purple or black symbol
- Symbol - Three blades
- Meaning - Radioactive material or radiation present
- Location - Rooms, laboratories, and containers

CAUTION



RADIOACTIVE  
MATERIAL

#### PRECAUTIONS TO OBSERVE IN RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL AREA:

- Contact Authorized User or a designee before entering a labeled laboratory or if you have any questions concerning your activities in the laboratory
- Enter labeled laboratory only when accompanied by the Authorized User or a designee
- Enter labeled patient rooms only when accompanied by a member of EHS's staff or it's designee
- Environmental Services will pick up household waste left by EHS outside of labeled patient room; this waste has been evaluated by EHS to assure that it is free of radioactive materials
- Do not handle radioactive materials; some radioactive materials are stored for future use in shielded containers, when necessary, to prevent exposure
- Do not eat, drink, smoke, apply cosmetics, or manipulate contact lenses in areas where radioactive materials are present or used

#### IF RADIOACTIVE WASTE CONTAINER IS EMPTIED BY ACCIDENT:

- Leave material in the trash collection container
- Notify supervisor to call EHS
- Set container aside for radioactive waste pickup

#### IF YOU FIND A LIQUID RADIOACTIVE WASTE CONTAINER LEAKING OR SPILLED:

- Do not work in this area
- Notify supervisor to call EHS
- Wash hands immediately with soap and warm water if contact to hands
- Remove shoes immediately after leaving room if on bottom of shoes

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To report a spill or for more information, call EHS at extension 707-2520. After work hours or on weekends, Call the page operator at Temple University Hospital at extension 707-4545.