

XXXX Nuclear Laboratory

Area Survey and Contamination Wipe Policy

1. Performance of periodic surveys:

The purpose of surveys is to identify areas of radioactive contamination. Routine surveys of dose rates initially should be performed weekly with an appropriate survey meter in:

- i) Restricted areas, where workers may be exposed to radiation levels that might result in radiation doses > 10% of the occupational dose limits; and
- ii) Unrestricted areas, where members of the public may be exposed to radiation levels that might result in radiation doses that exceed the public dose limits.

a. Area Survey

- i) Personnel must be familiar with the proper operation of the instrument and must know what procedures to follow in the event that the equipment is not functioning properly.
- ii) At the end of each day, a survey with a GM survey device will be made in all areas where radiopharmaceuticals are routinely prepared for use or administered. In addition, any areas where patients frequent (i.e., the waiting room) will be surveyed. The area outside of the hot lab and all non-radioactive waste cans will also be surveyed.
- iii) The survey will be performed with a meter able to detect dose rates as low as 0.01 mrem/hr.
- iv) Notify the RSO of any readings > 2 mR/hr in restricted areas and .2 mR/hr in unrestricted areas.
- v) Decontaminate as necessary.
- vi) All areas marked on the diagram for each room shall be surveyed and documented (See attached form)

b. Contamination (Wipe) Survey

- i) A survey for removable contamination shall be performed once each week for all areas where radiopharmaceuticals are routinely prepared for use, administered, stored or where patients frequent.
- ii) The wipes shall be counted on equipment sensitive to determine 2000 dpm. The well counter will be used at MII.
- iii) All areas designated on the appropriate form will be monitored. Any areas measuring > 2000 dpm/100 cm² will require the immediate notification of the RSO.
- iv) The results of the removable contamination survey will be recorded on the appropriate form. (See attached form)

- 2. The area under all radioactive material injections shall, where possible, be covered with an absorbent pads and chocolate chips and should always be monitored with a GM survey meter following injection as needed.
- 3. All areas where radioactive material has been used must be monitored with a GM survey meter at least daily. The results shall be recorded on the "Room Survey Report" form.
- 4. Non-radioactive "cold" waste must be monitored with a GM survey meter to insure there is no contaminated lemonade present before it is released for disposal. If contaminated material is detected it must be retrieved or the waste held for decay prior to disposal. The results shall be entered into the waste column on the Room Survey Report.
- 5. Smear surveys will be performed at least weekly. Any areas of contamination in excess of 2000 dpm/100 cm² must be reported to the RSO and decontaminated.
- 6. All minor spills and/or contaminated areas should be decontaminated immediately. The RSO should be notified so the follow-up appropriate surveys and evaluation can be performed.
- 7. In the event of a major spill and/or contamination incident, the RSO and consulting physicist should be contacted immediately for assistance in monitoring and decontamination. The technologist involved will need to provide information regarding the spill for documentation of the incident.

Written: _____	Date: _____
Revised: _____	Date: _____
Reviewed: _____	Date: _____
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