Hazardous Materials

Audience: All personnel in the Sleep Disorder Center.

Purpose: Specific procedures for dealing with the use, storage and clean-up of any hazardous materials used in the sleep center help assure the safety of patients and staff.

Policy: All sleep staff will follow approved procedures when dealing with hazardous materials. Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) will be kept in the center’s Policy and Procedures Manual for all hazardous materials used in the center. All hazardous materials will be labeled appropriately and stored according to MSDS guidelines.

Hazardous materials used in the Sleep Disorder Center include:

- 70% Isopropyl Alcohol Prep Pads
- Ten20 Conductive Paste
- Nuprep Skin Prep Gel
- Cavicide XLwipes
- Liquid Detergent
- V. Mueller Enzymatic Detergent
- Cidex OPA

MSDS for each of the materials listed above will provide detailed information regarding (if applicable):

- Product name
- Chemical name
- Manufacturer’s name, address and telephone number
- Formula
- Trade name
- Appearance/odor
- Hazardous ingredients
- Physical and chemical characteristics (fire and explosion data)
- Physical hazards
- Health hazards (including acute and chronic health effects and any other related information)
- Primary routes of entry
- Exposure limits
- If OSHA, NTP and/or IARC considers the chemical a carcinogen
- Emergency and first aid procedures
- Special protection information
- Special precaution and spill/leak procedures
- Applicable control measures including engineering controls
- Preparation date of MSDS and responsible party for MSDS

**Chemical Spills and Exposures**

Chemical spills may include formaldehyde (formalin), gluteraldehyde (Cidex), trichloroacetic acid (TCA) and chemotherapeutic agents.

Personal protection is of primary importance and clean up of spills is secondary.

- Notify personnel in the immediate area that a spill or chemical exposure has occurred.
- Evacuate nonessential personnel from the area and isolate the spill area.
- Attend to persons who may have been contaminated or exposed.
  - Flush eyes with water for 20 minutes
  - Wash exposed skin with copious amounts of soap and water
- Notify supervisor and Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at 409-772-1781
  - After normal business hours (0800-1700) contact the University Telephone Operator at 409-772-1011 for the EHS On-call person.
- Stand by to advise EHS of immediate situation. EHS will either assist staff in clean up procedures for small spills or will dispatch the on-call person or the Hazardous Spill Response Team for clean up.

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Shahzad Jokhio, M.D.
Medical Director