

# EXPOSURE RESPONSE

for biological, chemical, or radiological exposures

## CALL 911 FOR ANY LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCY

### 1. PERFORM FIRST AID

**Needlestick, puncture or sharps injury, or animal bite/scratch**

Wash thoroughly for 15 minutes with warm water and sudsing soap.

**Eye exposure**

Use emergency station to flush eyes for 15 minutes while holding eyes open.

**Skin exposure**

- **Radioactive:** Survey skin and wash until the count rate cannot be reduced further. Stop if skin becomes irritated.
- **Chemical:** Wash with tepid water for 15 minutes.
- **Hydrofluoric acid:** Wash for 5 minutes, then apply calcium gluconate gel to skin.
- **Biological:** Wash with sudsing soap and water for 15 minutes.

**Inhalation or ingestion**

- Move out of the contaminated area and seek fresh air.
- Do not induce vomiting unless instructed to do so.
- **Radioactive:** Blow nose into clean tissue and survey for contamination.

### 2. GET MEDICAL HELP

**For radiological exposure or emergency:**

- Call Radiation Safety at **206-543-0463**.
- Call 911 if office closed.
- Provide the radionuclide, estimated amount and time since exposure.

**For chemical exposure or emergency:**

- Call **911** and follow the instructions given.
- Provide the chemical name, concentration, time since exposure and Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

**For biological and all other exposures:**

- Call the Employee Health Center at **206-685-1026**.
- Harborview sites call **206-744-3081**.
- If closed, call **911** and follow the instructions given.

**For all exposures:**

- Notify your supervisor.
- Secure the area before leaving.

### 3. REPORT THE INCIDENT

**For hospitalization, fatality, or recombinant nucleic acid exposure:**

- Notify EH&S immediately after performing first aid and getting medical help:
- Call the EH&S main phone line at **206-543-7262**.
  - If closed, call **206-685-UWPD(8973)** to reach EH&S staff on call.

**All incidents and near misses:**

Submit a report via the UW Online Accident Report (OARS) within 24 hours at <https://oars.ehs.washington.edu>.