



# Laboratory Safety

SAFETY SEMINAR 2024

# University Level

- ▶ Environmental Health and Safety
  - ▶ Biohazard, Radioisotope and laboratory safety (WHMIS)
  - ▶ Laboratory safety manual
  - ▶ Perform regular inspections and issue reports
  - ▶ Perform hazard/risk assessment
  - ▶ Respond to incidents such as accidents and hazardous spills
  - ▶ Several committees are an extension of EHS such as Occupational Health and Safety and Laboratory safety committee

# University Level

- ▶ MIMS – Memorial Incident Management system
- ▶ <https://www.mun.ca/MIMS/index.php>
- ▶ General safety concerns
- ▶ E-Alerts
- ▶ MUN safe app
- ▶ This is for non-emergent concerns (not monitored 24/7)
- ▶ Emergencies report to CEP 864-4100
- ▶ Non emergency CEP 864-8561
- ▶ <https://www.mun.ca/cep/personal-safety/>

# Departmental Level

- ▶ Biochemistry Head – kept informed of all safety reports and participates in assigning members to the departmental safety committee. He is consulted on all major laboratory safety issues
- ▶ Coordinator of laboratories and services; sits university level committees and assists with safety corrective action reports.
  - ▶ There is departmental specific training for certain equipment – will be covered in the walking tour at the end.
- ▶ Departmental safety committee
  - ▶ Grad student representative

# Laboratory Level

- ▶ Supervisor/ Principle investigator
  - ▶ Responsible for maintaining a laboratory safety plan detailing hazards, safe work procedures, and laboratory specific rules and guidelines
  - ▶ Internal lab specific training
  - ▶ Responsible for communicating with students what training is required to work in the laboratory (RAM, Biohazard, WHMIS etc.)
  - ▶ Responsible for keeping records for staff and students under their supervision
  - ▶ Dealing with all safety issues as per the annual/bi-annual safety inspections

# Laboratory Level

- ▶ Staff and students:
  - ▶ Responsible for following the rules and guidelines as set out in the lab specific laboratory safety plan (LSP)
  - ▶ Responsible for completing all the required training and providing the necessary records
  - ▶ Responsible to read the Laboratory Safety Manual
  - ▶ Reading SDS sheets and comply with all recommendations
  - ▶ Responsible for wearing proper personal protective equipment (PPE)
  - ▶ Behaving in a responsible manner to ensure safe work occurs

# Summary

- ▶ Upper levels are responsible for providing you with a safe work environment as well as the information and training you need to succeed.
- ▶ YOU are responsible for completing your training, reading the information provided, wearing your PPE, and doing everything necessary to ensure you protect yourself and work safely.

# General Safety

- ▶ No food/drinks in the labs
- ▶ If you are in a radioisotope or biohazard lab, you are expected to wear your lab coat –whether or not you are actively doing experiments
- ▶ PPE removal before leaving containment zone
- ▶ Working alone
  - ▶ Lab safety plan (buddy system)
  - ▶ Dangerous equipment
  - ▶ Hazardous chemicals
  - ▶ Eyewashes and showers



# General Safety

- ▶ Safely working with chemicals
  - ▶ Be aware of the SDS and read it prior to use
  - ▶ The key points are; storage, handling, spill response and disposal
  - ▶ Be aware of whether there is a safe work procedure associated with the chemical. (NAFTA health hazard 4 chemicals). Read it in advance and have it handy in the event of a spill or personal exposure
- ▶ Chemical spills –
  - ▶ Do you have a spill kit?
  - ▶ Are you familiar with the SDS?
  - ▶ Do you understand the hazard?
  - ▶ Do you have the correct PPE?
  - ▶ IF the answer is NO – evacuate, shut the door, and alert the correct people. If necessary pull fire alarm (for external response), if that is not necessary contact CEP and EHS.

# Equipment training

- ▶ Open discussion on timing for sessions

Questions?