

CODE BROWN
INTERNAL HAZARDOUS
MATERIAL SPILL/LEAK

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A notification of Code Brown indicates that there has been a spill or leak of a substance/gas being used on site. Depending on the kind and amount spilled, a partial or complete evacuation of the building may occur. See Code Green plan. In all cases, the immediate area is to be immediately evacuated by everyone except those trained and equipped to handle or clean up the spill.

Under no circumstances is the Fire Alarm to be activated in a Code Brown. Not only is this against the law, but it will set in motion a chain of unrelated events that places patients in adjacent hospital areas of the HSC/Janeway at risk.

Prevention and Preparedness

Always know what chemical/gas with which you are working and prepare for its safe handling by consulting the Materials Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) and wearing the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). Also ensure anyone in the area is doing the same.

General Procedures for All Chemical/Gas Spills/Leaks:

- Take prompt action to prevent further release or harm to persons in the area
- Notify CEP immediately (864-4100), providing your name, location and nature of the spill/leak once safe to do so
- Attempt to contain/stop the spill/leak if safe to do so and you have proper training and PPE
- Remove everyone from the immediate area and secure it by closing doors
- Clean up the spill if trained to do so and properly equipped with PPE
- Evacuate the building as necessary and/or directed (100 meters away if possible)
- Activate external venting where available during the evacuation of the area
- Return to the building and/or evacuated area only upon direction of those in authority

Campus Enforcement and Patrol will notify the following parties immediately:

- Eastern Health Security
- MUN Environmental Health and Safety (864-3659)
- Any internal agency required to clean up the spill

Emergency Code Plans

CHEMICAL SPILLS

Includes chemicals such as flammables, corrosives, oxidizers, toxics, cryogenics etc.

Section 1:

Clean Up a chemical spill only if:

- You have the appropriate spill kit for the chemical
- You understand the potential hazards involved
- You are familiar with the MSDS
- You have appropriate PPE

Without the above proceed to Section 2.

Clean Up Procedure:

- Stop the source of the leak if possible or contain the spill
- Remove any sources of ignition
- Begin clean-up; using the appropriate chemical spill kit
- Use a scoop or dustpan to pick up the used absorbent and place it in an appropriate container
- Label the container. Complete the hazardous waste form from www.mun.ca/health_safety/OSHMS/LSMS/HazMat_Waste_Request_Form.doc and submit it to Department of Health and Safety for disposal
- Complete an incident report
<https://mims.mun.ca:9443/D3VSOC/ealert/default.aspx>

Section 2:

- Evacuate the area/building, closing the door behind you
- Complete an incident report
<https://mims.mun.ca:9443/D3VSOC/ealert/default.aspx>

GAS LEAKS

Includes leaks of flammable, combustible, corrosive or toxic gases, oxygen and spills of cryogenic liquids.

Emergency Code Plans

Response Procedures:

- Attempt to find and stop the source of the leak by turning off valves or containment
- Leave the area immediately and close all doors on the way if the odor becomes strong or if you begin experiencing any physical symptoms such as coughing, wheezing, eye irritation etc.
- Complete an incident report
<https://mims.mun.ca:9443/D3VSOC/ealert/default.aspx>