

Management of Cytotoxic Spills

Volume 12 - Fluid and Medication Management Canterbury DHB Policy and Procedure Manual

Isolate the area
Protect yourself
Confine the spill
Clean up the spill
Clean the area
Dispose of waste

Isolate

Close windows and doors
Turn off fans
Move patients away

Protect

Put on

1. shoe covers
2. disposable gown
3. mask and goggles
4. gloves - two pairs (purple nitrile and rubber gloves)

Confine

Liquid spill - cover area with disposable pads/towels. Work from uncontaminated area to centre of spill

Powder spill - cover with wet disposable pads/towels and work as above.

Carpet spill - as above and contact cleaning supervisor for steam cleaning.


Clean

- Put clear plastic bag into cytotoxic bag and roll down edges
- Collect contaminated material/towels and put into clear bag
- Gently pour water over spill area on floor

Dispose

- Unroll edges clear bag place 1st set of gloves in and seal
- Unroll edges cytotoxic bag, place shoe covers, gown, mask and 2nd pair of gloves into bag and seal
- Send to waste removal area
- Perform hand hygiene
- Wash floor area
- Wash bucket/bowl if used and goggles in hot soapy water wearing protective equipment

Final Points

- Replace spill kit
-  Document spill on incident and OSH forms

Decontamination of Staff

First Aid Measures

Eyes

- Remove gloves
- Irrigate with water 15-20 minutes
- Seek medical advice
- 📝 Complete incident/OSH forms

Skin-drug contact

- Shower with copious amounts water 10-20 minutes
- Use soap and rinse off with running water
- Clean shower thoroughly
- 📝 Complete incident/OSH forms

Contaminated Materials

Minor spill

- Splash, contamination of urine, vomit, faeces, sweat etc
- Hospital issue clothing
- Place materials in alginate lined red laundry bag
- Label cytotoxic and send to laundry

- Personal clothing
- Double bag in plastic until washed
- Double hot wash as soon as possible in washing machine

Major spill

- Direct spill of cytotoxic agent, large area of absorption
- Double bag in cytotoxic waste bag and send for incineration