

The goal is to minimize the potential for spills and to prepare for chemical spills. Chemical spill kits should be available in laboratory areas where chemicals are used. There are three types of spill responses:

Controlled Spills

Controllable spills that can be cleaned up by personnel in the area of the spill.

1. These are spills of chemicals that are not reasonably expected to be a threat to human health or the environment, the properties are well known, and have been previously determined to be safely cleaned by laboratory personnel.
2. Evacuate other personnel from the area.
3. Review the Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for guidance.
4. Don the appropriate PPE.
5. Use the spill pads or absorbents to contain the spill.
6. Containerize the spilled material, fill out a chemical collection tag, and contact EHS.
7. Complete the Incident/Accident & Near-Miss Reporting Form at:
<https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/safety/incident-reporting.html>

Controlled Spills, requiring assistance

Controllable spills that are beyond the capabilities of personnel in the area of the spill.

1. These are spills of chemicals that are not reasonably expected to pose a threat to human health or the environment, the properties are well known, but they are beyond the capabilities of laboratory personnel.
2. Evacuate other personnel from the area.
3. Contact UNMC Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) 402-559-6356 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday - Friday, or call UNMC Security/Public Safety at 402-559-5555 after hours/weekends for assistance.
4. Provide the SDS for guidance.
5. The UNMC EHS Office will assist and containerize the spilled material and clean up the area if they can safely do so utilizing level C PPE.
6. Lab personnel will fill out a chemical collection tag, and contact EHS.
7. Complete the Incident/Accident & Near-Miss Reporting Form at:
<https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/safety/incident-reporting.html>

Uncontrolled Spill

Spill may pose a threat to human health and/or the environment and personnel in the vicinity are not able to contain the spill.

These are spills of chemicals that involve personnel injury, fire or explosion and can pose a threat to human health, the environment or UNMC property. It also includes large uncontrollable chemical spills, unknown chemical spills that are reasonably expected to cause serious injury or damage, or spills of chemicals that are water reactive, pyrophoric, shock sensitive, temperature sensitive, or highly toxic materials and cannot be safely cleaned by laboratory personnel.

1. Evacuate other personnel from the area.
2. Contact UNMC Security/Public Safety at 402-559-5555.
3. Provide the SDS for guidance.
4. Complete the Incident/Accident & Near-Miss Reporting Form at:
<https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/safety/incident-reporting.html>