



Module 7
GENERAL RULES FOR
RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL

GENERAL RULES

To help prevent the accidental ingestion of radioactive materials:

- Eating, drinking, smoking, storage of food or eating utensils, or the application of cosmetics are not permitted in laboratories or rooms where radioactive materials are used or stored.



GENERAL RULES

- Personnel issued personal dosimeters must wear their dosimeters in the assigned locations while working with or around radioactive materials or radiation generating machines.



GENERAL RULES

- The appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, laboratory coat, etc.) should be always worn.



GENERAL RULES

- Pipetting by mouth in areas where radioactive materials are used is forbidden.



GENERAL RULES

- Any injury, no matter how slight, involving radioactive materials must be reported so that appropriate action may be taken.
- Radiation incident instructions are posted in all radiation laboratories.

GENERAL RULES

- Proper containment (absorbent paper, trays, secondary liquid containers, etc.) required for experimentation must be in place.







GENERAL RULES

- Fume hoods are to be used for all operations that involve the potential release of airborne materials including gases, volatile compounds, dusts, and aerosols (minimum air flow shall be 85 fpm).



GENERAL RULES

- Prescribed radiation detection equipment and calibrated survey instruments must be available and functional.



BEFORE USING A SURVEY METER

1. If you are not sure how to use the meter get instructions before using the meter.
2. Always check to make sure the meter responds to radiation.
3. Always check to make sure that the batteries are not discharged.

GENERAL RULES

- Radioactive materials must be stored and shielded in the manner prescribed for the area and secured to restrict unauthorized persons from using or removing the material.



GENERAL RULES

- Work areas ***must be surveyed at the end of the day when more than 0.5 mCi of material is handled.***
 - Handling does not constitute touching or picking up of a vial or container containing radioactive material.
- Contact the radiation safety office for additional guidance on in lab survey procedures.

SECURITY

- Security is maintained if:
 - The laboratory is being occupied,
 - The laboratory is locked when unoccupied,
 - All radioactive materials are securely locked in a cabinet, refrigerator or freezer.

GENERAL RULES

- All bottles, jars, boxes, and cabinets containing radioactive materials ***must be clearly labeled*** as to the radionuclide, quantity, and date, and initialed by the responsible person.



GENERAL RULES

- All cabinets, refrigerators, and freezers which contain radioactive materials ***must be labeled.***



GENERAL RULES

- All entrances must be properly labeled with signs appropriate to the hazard and posted with the names and telephone numbers of individuals to be contacted in emergencies.
- The purpose of the door sign is to warn people of the hazards inside the laboratory.

