



UTHealth Emergency Response Plan for Biohazardous Materials  
Inclusive of Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids

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**Title:** Personal Contamination

**Section:** Biological Safety

**IBC Approval Date:** February 2016

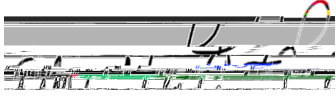
**Revision Date:** September 14, 2023

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Personnel exposures to infectious agents can arise from a variety of incidents, including aerosols, splashes of liquid into mucous membrane or broken skin, percutaneous injury and animal scratches or bites. In immediately reported to Environmental Health & Safety at 713-500-8100 or after hours via the EHS hotline at 713-500-5832. After administering immediate first aid as needed, the affected individual(s) should seek medical treatment at the UT Employee/Student Health Services. If the exposure or injury is severe or

1. Wash the affected area thoroughly with soap and water and rinse the area for 15 minutes.
2. Allow small wounds such as punctures to bleed freely. There is no evidence that additional squeezing or “milking” of the puncture site is beneficial in preventing infection.
3. Control more severe bleeding with direct compression on the wound with sterile dressings. Wear disposable gloves to prevent exposure to biohazards/blood/body fluids.
4. The application of antiseptics or disinfectants may be beneficial, however, avoid the use of bleach or other disinfecting agents that are caustic to the skin.
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Institutional Biosafety Committee Chair