

# PRNC002

PRNC-2

(Health Physics)

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AND

REGULATIONS

By J. A.Ferrer Monge

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(Health Physics)

HEALTH PHYSICS GUIDE AND REGULATIONS

by

Ay Ferrer Monge

Fuerto Rico Nuclear Center

operated By.

University of Puerto Rico

for

U.S, Atomic Energy Comission

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Gcteber 1, 1959

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PREFACE

The "Guide and Regulations" has been prepared

so that all personnel of the PRC and other persons

associated with the institution can read them care-

fully and thus proceed as instructed.

Radiation protection can be afforded best when

persons dealing or working with radioactive materials

and sources of radiation follow good house 21a prac-

tices and observe rules, regulations and recommenda-

tions.

It is the responsibility of supervisors to see

that all persons under their jurisdiction comply

in full with the rules and regulations set forth

here,

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Section T

organiztions snd Officers Associated with Radiological Safety

Radiological Safety Cornitien

## Ay Membership

The Radiological Safety Committee, hereafter designated RS.

shall consist of the following members:

J- Director of the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center = chairman

22 Director Reactor Program,

32 Director Nuclear Science Technology Program

Be nB.Gy Area Hears

Si Assistant, Director of Nuclear Operations

ses Section

## B Duties

The R.S.C. will have the following duties:

1. To review and approve, or suggest revision of proposed regula-

tions and procedures pertaining to radiation hazard and/or

contamination.

2. To review and approve proposed location of radiation areas

in regard to radiation hazard.

3. To establish regulations and conditions of a temporary

license. To receive reports from the Health Physics Section and

review them.

3. To review radiation incidents

4. To recommend disciplinary action when any person using

radiation sources and other radioactive material or radiation

source fails to observe the safety rules, regulations and

procedures as set forth in this code.

To consider and take action on any other matters pertaining

to the corporation which are not duties of the

Isotope and/or To-inier? Committees.

8, To keep records of the activities of the committee in regard

to all transactions considered under 1 to 7 and other

matters



The Board, shall meet 2s érequently as required by circumstances, but not less than once six months, Attendance of other appropriate persons for a specific meeting may be requested through the Director's offices

---Page Break---

IL, Taotopé Committee

Membership

This committee will consist at least of the following of whom one will be appointed chairman by the Director of FRI.

1. One Pathologist

2. One Radiobiologist

for Administrative Officer or his appointee

Food Health Physics Section

## By Duties

The duties of this committee are:

1, To review and approve, procedures for procurement of radioisotopes and proposal for use of such material in the Puerto Rico Nuclear Cent

Rico Nuclear Cent

Primary consideration is given to the following:

that the person(s) requesting the material is

qualified to handle and use the radioisotope(s) requested.

that suitable facilities are available to carry on the

project where the radioisotope(s) is to be used.

c+ ?that the proposed use of the material is safe as regards

?to radiation hazard,

2 To keep records of all the meetings of the committee

Cy Meetings

Regularly: 21 be held every month. Special meetings

may be called at the request of the chairman,

Ti, Technical Committee

Ay enberchi

Reactor Supervisor = chairman

Health Physics Section Head

UL other scientific personnel as required

By Duties

Ly Review emsrinents in the reactor facilities,

2. Review changes to reactor equipment and/or procedures.

3. To revieix and approve in advanee propoaale for use of reactor facilities,

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UL, Periodically review all aspects of reactor facility operations for possible hazards.

3. Submit results of reviews and recomendations to the Reactor Division Director and R.S.O..

6, Other duties as may be delegated by the Reactor Division Director,

7, To delegate such authority to the reactor supervisor ac they may find appropriate,

8, To keep records of all the meetings of the committee.

## Meetings

The committee shall meet as frequently as required by circumstances, but at least one meeting shall be held every six months.

## IV, Radiation Safety Officer

The Head of the Health Physics Section is the Radiation Safety Officer.

He is also a member of the R.S., Isotope and Technical Committees. The

Radiation Safety Officer will delegate special duties to one or more

members of the Health Physics Section Staff. As head of the Health

Physics Section his responsibilities are (from the standpoint of radia-

tion safety):

A

To review all proposed plans or projects for use of radioactive

materials and make recommendations to the person(s) submitting the plan or project or to the person using the radioactive material on the appropriate use of it,

To review all plans for proposed use of sources of ionizing radiation not covered in A above, such as accelerators, reactors, Jersey units, etc, and make recommendations to the experimenter for the appropriate use of such sources.

To review all requisitions for radioactive materials and see that a suitable location, storage area, etc, is available at time of receipt.

To survey 211 incoming shipments of radioactive materials, their distribution and storage.

To supply personnel monitoring instruments and instruct in their use.  
To keep records of individual radiation exposures.

To keep records of urinalysis

To supply protective clothing and recommend use of the same as set down in this guide.

To determine exposure levels under working conditions including distance and time limits.

To survey storage and working areas as frequently as necessary.

To recommend methods and procedures for radioactive waste disposal and supervise the same.

---Page Break---

To carry on a permanent personnel and area monitoring program,

To supervise decontamination.

To calibrate and have repaired survey instruments and personnel

and area monitoring instruments.

O, To supervise the maintenance of records of receipt, transfer, disposal, etc. of radioactive material.

P. To keep records of accidents and incidents pertaining to radiation safety such as spills, losses of radioactive material, overexposures, etc

Q. Supervise and control procedures involving issuance, stocking, collecting, laundering and disposal of protective equipment, clothing, etc.

R, To advise on the design or alteration of installations involving sources of ionising radiation.

8. To make arrangements for the proper training and indoctrination of personnel whenever necessary.

7. To carry on research and training pertaining to Radiological Physics and Safety.

U, With the advice and approval of the R.S.C. to keep the Radiological Guide and Regulations up to date,

V, To prepare and distribute manuals, guides, or other publications.



tions pertaining to Health Physics as deemed necessary.

W. To supervise and/or direct all irradiation facilities with respect to radiation safety (e.g. uses of the facilities, procedures, etc.)

The Radiological Safety Officer is appointed by the Director and responsible to him for the fulfillment of his duties.

Other duties and responsibilities not covered above are fully explained in the next sections of the guide.

Medical Officer

The duties and responsibilities of the Medical Officer are indicated throughout the succeeding sections of the guide only in his relation to radiation safety aspects,

Other Divisions, Departments, etc.

Directors, heads, foremen, supervisors, etc., must keep the H.P.S. informed of personnel assigned to duties involving possible radiation exposure in order for the section to provide the necessary personnel monitoring instruments. Other contacts of supervisors with the Health Physics Section are discussed throughout the guide,

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Section II

Permissible Exposure Levels

Table 1 gives the maximum permissible exposure levels (MPE) from

external sources of ionizing radiation,

For the maximum permissible concentration of radioisotopes in water and air refer to National Bureau of Standards, Handbook 69, Maximum Permissible Body Burdens and Maximum Permissible Concentrations of Radionuclides in Air and in Water for Occupational Exposure.

The levels given in Tables 1 and, the NBS handbook shall not be considered as tolerance levels and efforts shall be made to keep those levels as low as possible, (e.g. as close to background values as possible).

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Table 1. RECOMMENDED LIMITS ON EXPOSURE TO EXTERNAL RADIATION

EXPOSURE: NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON RADIATION PROTECTION & MEASUREMENT  
PREVIOUS TITLE

OCUPATIONAL,

Critical organs +3 rem/week

(Includes the whole | 3" rema/quarter a ab

body, blood forming [15 rems/year b 5 rems/yoar ©

organs, gonads,

15 rems/year a

?ohees? of the eyes) "

Skin (whate body) 16 reey/yook a

30°? rene/year 10 rems/year c@

30 rens/year df

trenities

(sicin dose) 165 rens/wesk b 75 rens/year £

(WON-DOCUPATTONAL

Individuals in ? 1.5 rens/year WS ren/year (average)

vicinity of con

trolled areas a

General popudations | us rens/0-30 yrs, | 10 rens/0-30 yre

(average exposure to (3.3 rens/decado

gonads above background after age 30)

fron all sources)

a Exposure reeultang

a If «3 ren/woek a Tt Ae expected that modi

fron plant opera is exceeded, fication of the NORP recom

?AHony net anolue |b Assunes 50 work mendations will regult in

ing? background: weeks per year the dropping of a wi

or medical exposure per yes Linitation. sear

D It Se expected that, nodi-

?fication wll regult in

quarterly Linit at 3.75

© Average dose/yr, lifetine

?cccupational.

4 Maximn in one year

© Double the MPD for eri=

?eal organs

£ Asounes 50 workweeks per

years

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Section IIT

Handling Radioactive Materiel

Preventive measures are the foundation of radiation protection, The Preventite and safety rules piven in this manual shall be employed by all Personnel and enforced by the proper authorities. Laxity in following the rules set forth here will jeopardize the safety of 211 personnel, Sneluding

?the violator. In case of doubt on any procedure the Health Physics Section shall be consulted,

I, Radioactive sources and radiation sources are divided into three Categories: Category 1 (low intensity), Category 2 (intermediate intensity) Category 3 (high intensity). (See Appendix A for definitions).

II, Intensity Levels and Zones:

In regard to intensity levels from radioactive substances or sources

?the following, as detected by survey and monitoring equipment, are established,

A, Radiation Area(s) and High Radiation Area(s). (See Appendix A for definition).

B, Radiation Area(s) and High Radiation Area(s) = shall be properly Indicated by use of appropriate signs, Persons authorized to enter these areas shall wear personal monitoring devices (e.g. dosimeter, Pocket chamber) in addition to the film badge,

TIL, Procurement?



Any acquisition by the FICO of radioactive material from outside the Center, or any disposal of radioactive material from inside to outside of the Center shall be carried out through the Administrative Office,

A. The Administrative Office shall notify the Health Physics Section of the scheduled arrival of any radioactive material by filling the appropriate section of Form N-103,

As soon as the Administrative Office receives notification of arrival, he shall notify the Health Physics Section. This section will collect, survey and deliver the material to the appropriated custodian and notify the Administrative Office of action taken.

The Health Physics Section will complete the appropriate section of Form N-103, and send a copy to the Administrative Office,

Transfer of radioactive material from one storage location to another for change of custodian within the FRC shall be reported to the HP Section before the transfer is made,

---Page Break---

NOTICE OF MOVING OR OUTGOING RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL,

To be Filled by Administrative Office in Duplicate: Your

Incoming Outgoing

1. Date of this notice

Expected date of arrival

3+ Material

3. Type of package

6. Approximate size and weight

Quantity (C, me or ue)

Storage location-room No.

» Delivered by (car, truck, airplane)

To be filled by Health Physics Section:

LL, Parcel ~ Survey

12, Maximum radiation at (distance)

15. Prom (center or surface) Maximum radiation st

2 rotor Qk. Instrument used

Contamination

. Bridence

Yl. Tat. used,

S, Renarke (damaged parcel, no label, possible exposure to areas or persons,

ete.)

Delivered to 20. Date of survey

PRIG-HPS FORM WO, 7661 ?Signature of Surveyor

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?Transfer of radioactive material into or out of FRNC shall only be recorded and monitored by the HFS in accordance to approved procedures, This section will assist, if needed, in such transfer.

Form flowéq will be filled in any of the above mentioned instances.

Storage!

Whether @ radioactive material is kept in a temporary or permanent storage, such material shall be clearly labeled, The Health Physics Section will supply upon request the required labels for all radioactive materials or substances.

## A, Permanent Storage Area

(See Appendix A for definitions),

Entrance of unauthorized personnel to this area shall be restricted by use of locks, physical barriers or any other convenient method. The Health Physics Section will affix appropriate warning signs. Barricades, when used, should be placed so that access to surrounding areas will not result in exposures greater than 7,5 mrem/yr or else a limiting time access be used. Permanent storage areas shall be maintained under the cognizance of the Health Physics Section.

## B, Temporary Storage Area ~ (See Appendix A for definition).

Temporary areas shall be properly indicated by means of warning signs. These signs will be supplied by the Health Physics Section, but it is the responsibility of supervisors to carry out related regulated regulations and safety measures (See section VaA above and others).

Permanent and Temporary Storage Space = any person can request space for storage of radioactive materials from the authority Controlling the desired space, which may or may not be the Health Physics Section. The HPS will give final approval. To apply for storage space use Form HPS-111 out Form HPS-111 in duplicates

D. Storage Tags - tags for radioactive material in a permanent storage area can have the following information!

Yo.

Material quantity, (G, mg or µg)

Date Measured Last Custodian,

Date of Storage

Description of source: (Such as: enclosed in glass capsule, remote tongs needed, in powder or Liquid form or milliliters, etc.)

Radiation Intensity for object (if needed)

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HEALTH PHYSICS SECTION

Transfer Permit

2, Dates 2, Requested by: 3. No,

h, Present custodian

5. Yew custodian

6, Present storage location (building and room)

7. Iew storage loeation (building and room)

5, Description of material and quantity

9, Description of container(s)

10. Date when transfer will be made =



UL, Assistance needed from H.P.S.

The requester certifies that the person to whom the material described above

is to be transferred (custodian) is acquainted

with the material and with

the radiation hazards involved in using, handling or working with such material.

Furthermore the requester indicates that said person is acquainted

also with decontamination and disposal procedures pertaining to the material,

Note: Use reverse side for additional space.

To be Filled Out by the Health Physics Section

Permit granted by

Date

Wot valia after

Penaz!

PRYC-HPS FORM wo, 662

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prfur at (unsnterded)

Contamination  $\phi/m$  (alpha)

cfm (beta, gamma)

HAPS, Date

VE. Recommendations for handling Radionuclides

A

B

General

Protection is best afforded in three distinct ways, or a combination of them: distance, shielding, time.

It is recommended not to rush when using radioactive materials or substances, but person should not remain exposed to radiation beyond the time required for completion of work.

The use of gloves, tongs, electromagnetic holders, remote pipetting devices, shoe covers, etc, are strongly recommended.

Whenever the intensity field is such that the devices above are not enough, shielding shall be used to further assure protection,

## Shielding

Because of the value and common use of shielding for many operations involving use of radioactive substances or sources, certain general facts should be taken into consideration (keeping in mind that shielding problems may be very complex at times).

1. For gammas, lead (high atomic number) is the most widely used material due to its high density and relative economy.

2. For betas, plastics (low atomic number) like plexiglass and lucite are the most widely used materials. With betas Bremsstrahlung rays (secondary gammas) are produced. As a rule 1 curie of beta produces about 1 millicurie of gamma equivalent.

3. For beta-gamma sources in which Bremsstrahlung phenomena occur, a combination of plastic and lead is frequently used.

4. For neutrons, paraffin and water are the most widely used absorbers and moderators.

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Section 1V

Contamination and Decontamination

Contamination

Criteria for Contamination

Any portion, area, tone, surface, etc, exceeding the levels given in Table 2 is to be considered as contaminated.

Prevention of Contamination and Spreading of Contamination

ALL radioactive material shall be considered as « potential leaker, In handling or using radioactive materials or substances all items which may become contaminated should be considered as such until Proved otherwise by proper monitoring. This applies especially to items used in conjunction with isotopes in class I and II in Table 3, Glassware shall be thoroughly washed and monitored after use. Washed glassware shall be stored separately from unused glassware, Any equipment, instrument, tool, etc. of doubtful

cleanliness in regard to radioactive contamination that must be  
paired and will be monitored and approved by the Health Physics Section  
before it can be sent for repair.

The following rules shall be observed while working or handling  
radioactive material:

A. Avoid smoking, eating or drinking of any kind, use of cosmetics,  
etc.

B. Do not use telephone, nor handle reports, etc, while wearing  
gloves.

C. No solution, regardless of its nature, shall be pipetted by  
mouth, avoiding chance of ingesting, however, remote.

D. In case one has to leave the premises be sure to wash exposed  
parts of the body, in particular the hands, and check with a  
monitor.

Before leaving the premises all protective clothing or equipment

such as shoe covers, gloves, coats, masks, etc., shall be left.

At the premises,

Facility Custodians and/or supervisors are responsible for checking for radon Leakage, every 3 months, all radium sources assigned to them or to personnel under their supervision and notifying the Health Physics Section.

Tables, laboratory surfaces, floor surfaces, etc. which may become contaminated during an experiment or in handling radioactive material, shall be covered with appropriate paper towel, absorbent paper, etc.

The Health Physics group will gladly assist in recommending materials

to be used in these cases.

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?TABLES. CLASSIFICATION OF RADIOTSOTDPES accoRDTNG

"TO THEIR RELATIVE RADIOTOXICITY WITHIN THE BODY

Hazard Class | Activity Level \* Maxigun Permissible. Cant:

Class 1 ernedia

Slight Hazard i or [Fatemediatt igh

Bel, 2, ese, oy :

4075, A577, 285, ng? |

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Clase 1

Moderate Hazard

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45,95, % 03, ogl2T, 129 5 me

pa, #37, Hild, #10

coll, ppAh3, Hygah7, %,298

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Very Hazardous |

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22255, col, pal, 94210

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\$00 ue up} 0.2

SModifioid after Table 1. NBS 43 UB.1951

Monitoring Instrumenté for beta and gama read usually in mr/hr ot  $\mu$ /m, Instruments for beta and alpha usually read in o/n or mrop/a, but for practical purposes in radiation protection the rep and rad difference can be neglected, The rad io the officially adopted unit of absorbed dose.

# Mids assuxes 10% transferable alpha, beta or gama, These values are for body con  
?tamination only, Values for group contamination other than body are found in Table 2.

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Le

All laboratories or other facilities making use of radioisotopes shall have a properly labeled solid wastes can and/or a liquid wastes container of the type specified by the HPS,

Equipment or materials (e.g. gas cylinders, instruments, reagent bottles, etc.) used in areas of radioactivity shall be checked by a Health Physics surveyor before they are discarded or transferred or returned to stock rooms, etc.

Hops and brooms used in cleaning "hot" laboratories, high level activity areas or any other area where radioactive substances are used regularly (e.g. Radice

chemistry, Radiobiology labs.) shall never be used to clean other areas, nor placed together with mops and brooms used for cleaning "normal" areas, laboratories, offices, classrooms and the like

Whenever a radiation area is to be vacated the Health Physics Section shall be notified, The Section shall make a survey of the area and if this is found to be contaminated above permissible levels, will request decontamination by the person or persons vacating the area, The Health Physics Section will give final approval for reoccupation of the areas

Spills (see Appendix A for definition) shall be reported

to the Health Physics Section immediately, In case of

doubt as to how to proceed, contact the Health Physics Section,

Spills shall be cleaned as soon as practical, If the radio

active material is in liquid form, blot with blotting paper



(not towel paper) using rubber gloves, If in powder form clean with damp paper towel. Be sure paper is not soaked wet. Wear rubber gloves. When dry, monitor and proceed with decontamination. (Part V of this section).

Any glass item in a laboratory or other room where radioisotopes are present shall never be taken to the glass blowing shop. For this reason, it is suggested that glass items (e.g. beakers, glass tubing, pipettes, test tubes, etc)

in laboratories and rooms where radioisotopes are stored

or used, be kept in enough quantities to meet the needs,

all other glass items of no immediate use shall be stored

in an appropriate place in accordance with the idea expressed above. In addition pipettes, glassware, tubing and similar items in a laboratory shall never be allowed to touch one's mouth.

Centrifuges shall be used very carefully to avoid spills and/or contamination. They shall never be operated with the lid open and the centrifuge tubes shall never be filled less than 1 inch from the rim when radioactive solutions are used,

Note: If contaminant is an alpha emitter use your best

Judgement in monitoring. Portable alpha survey meters are  
Not as efficient as other instruments. The Health Physics  
Section will take "sneers" if requested or necessary.

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TII, Protective Clothing

Any Expendable clothing (see Appendix A for definition) will be

issued to all personnel working in areas where contamination  
possible. All expendable clothing that can be laundered

shall be properly identified by a serial marking to indicate  
its assignment (including that used by the Health Physics Staff),

By Some expendable clothing (e.g. paper clothing, plastic shoe

covers, etc.) shall be discarded after using it once, Other expendable clothing will be discarded accordingly.

©, The Health Physics Section will supply laundry hampers or equivalent for the collection of expendable clothing to be Amundered, One hamper is labeled "Cold Clothing". Garnents giving under 150 /m for alphas and less than 700 c/n for beta-gamma, when checked with a laboratory survey instrument, shall be thrown into this hanper

?The other hanper is labeled "Hot Clothing". Garments reading 150  $\phi$ /m or nore for alphas and 700 e/n or nore for beta-gama ?shall be dumped into this hanper, (See table 2 "Naximm Permixon seible Contarination Level 8").

?These hampers shall be used only for fabric clothing,

Protective clothing shall be monitored by the wearer daily before leaving works

The Health Physics group will collect these samples at regular intervals.

TV, Contaminated Tools and Equipment.

This applies to any item used in handling, transportation, machining, disposal, etc. of radioactive material that can be called out or equipment in the conventional way.

Contaminated tools and equipment shall be considered as radioactive material and treated as such until properly decontaminated and proved to be so. Whenever tools and equipment are suspected of being contaminated, consider them as such until proved otherwise.

Whenever tools, equipment, glassware, containers, etc. are definitely contaminated, they are to be placed under water, under an operating hood or on top of blotting paper, (whichever the situation calls for), until decontaminated, but they shall never be allowed to rest directly on exposed surfaces of any kind nor shall they

be stocked in a storage room or any other room on exposed surfaces, for future decontaminations.

Any item that has been cleaned and decontaminated shall be monitored to assure definite decontamination.

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Decontanirat ion

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Responsibility

It is the responsibility of individuals working with radioactive substances to get acquainted with decontamination procedures, particularly suited to their work and they shall be responsible to carry on these procetures and to take the necessary steps to avoid spread of contanination to other area:

It is not the responsibility of the Health Physics Section to carry out decontamination, except when the contaninated material is such that only this department has the facilities to do it for when a serious problen of contarinat ion may develop. In that case this department shall be notified at once to take care of the situation,

The Health Physics Section shall be consulted at any time in case of doubt to furnish advice or assistance.

### Cuts, Wounds and Lesions

Personnel using or working with radioactive materials receiving

a cut, wound or lesion shall report at once to the Medical Officer for diagnosis and treatment. The Medical Officer will notify the Health Physics Section,

If a person is actually engaged in work using a radioactive substance which may contaminate a cut, wound or skin lesion, proceed as follows:

- 1, Wash the injured area immediately with running water.

Apply pressure while washing. The time factor is very important to reduce the amount of absorption of contaminants (if any were present).

2. Notify or have someone else notify the H.P.S. at once.

3. Secure medical attention as necessary, if possible under any circumstance shall employ antiseptics or self-treatments. Any person receiving a cut, wound or skin lesion should report to the Medical Officer for clearance before

Working of using radioactive substances again.

Laboratory Equipment, Tools, Apparatus, Materials, etc

Whenever an item is to be decontaminated the person or persons in charge shall wear rubber gloves, In addition, an apron or coverall (whichever is best for the particular case) and shoe covers or rubber boots (whichever is best for the particular case), shall be worn, If fumes are involved in the procedures, assault or gas masks shall be worn,

Ordinarily, the majority of contaminated items can be

=e

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decontaminated by the person using these items or by someone assigned to this job (not a member of the Health Physics staff),

Decontamination of low contaminated items shall not be carried out in laboratories and working areas where teaching and/or research is done as this may create a potential hazard and/or may affect background levels.

4A2 items in this group which are not going to be decontaminated immediately shall be properly and clearly labeled

using a sticker, label or tag indicating "Radioactive Contamination" until decontaminated, Such items shall be placed in a decontamination room, especially if bulky or in large numbers (eg. part of a machinery, several beakers, etc.)

Wherever they are temporarily stored they shall be placed on top of absorbent paper or blotting paper, under water, under a hood or in a well exhausted room

As stated in part V of this section, subpart A, the responsibility for decontamination is taken over by Health Physics Section only in serious cases of contamination,

However, if a person is not familiar with decontamination procedures not covered in this guide, the assistance of the Health Physics group shall be requested, Also, if the physical character of the contaminated item is such that it can not be decontaminated with the conventional equipment and materials, the services of the Health Physics Section shall be requested.

In case of doubt always consult your supervisor and if he can not help consult the Health Physics Section.



## VI. Recommendation for Decontamination

Ae

General,

Decontamination is a complex problem depending on the type of contaminant and the contaminated material, therefore only General decontamination procedures are considered here, giving Particular attention to hand and body decontamination. Table T (appendix B) presents a list of general routine decontamination procedures, the table is to be used only as a guide,

Personal. Decontamination

In case of personal contamination the procedure outlined in Appendix B is recommended.

- we

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Section ¥

Personnel Monitoring

of personnel monitoring devices, all of which have a definite use for a particular type of work with radioactive material, or to gather specific information in regard to exposure dose received by personnel. These devices shall be worn as indicated. Failure to do so will be detrimental mainly to the wearer,

Any Film badges - these badges, made of metal, plastic or cardboard about 1 1/2 x 1-3/4 inches in size, shall be worn at all times while the person is within the controlled area (see Appendix A for definition). The badges assigned will be of 3 types.

1. Permanent, badges - every permanent, employee or person associated or visiting PRIC for a period of time of one year or more will be assigned a permanent film badge.

2. Temporary badges = are assigned to persons temporarily employed or associated or visiting the Puerto Rico Nuclear

Center, for a period of not less than 3 months nor greater

than one year (e.g. regular students, part-time employees,

eten

Visitors badges - are assigned to persons employed, who are

employed or visiting either regularly or irregularly for a period

from 88 to 12 weeks.

1k, Regardless of type of badge, this shall be worn with the name  
toward the front

5. The badges shall be worn somewhere around the chest level,  
outside of all clothing. For persons engaged in special work  
where the hands are exposed most, wrist badges will be issued

6, Badges shall be picked up every morning from a badge rack lo-  
cated in the main lobby. The rack is numbered serially to  
correspond with the file badge

Badges shall be returned to their proper place in the rack on  
leaving the installation. none

The film 4a sensitive to a certain extent to temperature, Ine  
humidity and heat, therefore, the badges shall never be exposed  
with, taken home, left in the drawers or on top of cold or hot  
surfaces, etc. if this is done an erroneous reading may be

Recorded for the person to whom the badge was assigned

& Persons employed, associated or visiting for less than 8 weeks  
may or may not use pocket chambers and/or dosimeters as determined by HP.S,

---Page Break---

De

Pocket dosimeters - these are self-reading fountain pen type  
electroscopes.

1, These dosimeters are assigned by the Health Physics Section to personnel working in radiation areas here the possibility exist of getting an exposure dose greater than LO millirems of X or betagamma radiation in 8 hours (see table 1 Maximum Permissible Exposures to External Radiation).

2, Personnel using pocket dosimeters shall be instructed by their Supervisors on how to read them,

3. Pocket dosimeters shall never be handled roughly.

Pocket dosimeters shall be picked up from the rack in the morning before starting to work, Dosimeters are placed next to the badge in the same rack used for badges, in the main lobby, in slots provided for them

Before leaving the installation they shall be returned to the rack,

Pocket dosimeters are read daily by the Health Physics Section.

The section will assign 2 dosimeters to a person, if there are enough available.

Pocket chambers ~ these devices are similar to pocket dosimeters, except they are not self-reading and have to be read in a special

instrument in the Health Physics Section.

Pocket chambers are assigned by the Health Physics Section to Personnel working in radiation areas where the normal exposure in 8 hours is not likely to exceed 10 millirems of X or beta-gamma radiation and to visitors, since they do not wear X-ray film,

2, Pocket chambers shall be used in the same manner as pocket dosimeters and handled, picked and returned every day as instructed for pocket dosimeters (see B 2 and 3 above).

Combined pocket chambers ~ these chambers are similar to the pocket chambers described under C above, except that in addition to being Sensitive to X, beta and gamma radiation, they also detect thermal neutrons.

?These chambers read in terms of millirems,

These chambers will be assigned by the Health Physics Section to personnel working in areas where the possibility exists of being exposed to mixed radiation (e.g. near the reactor).

Combined chambers shall be used like pocket chambers described under C above.

?These chambers shall be handled, picked up and returned every  
Gay 25 Instructed for pocket dosimeters (see 2 and 3 under 8  
above).

Neutron pocket chambers = these chambers are similar to those al  
ready described except that they are used to detect thermal neu  
?trons only.

---Page Break---

These pocket chambers also read in millirems,

1, These chambers are assigned to personnel working in areas where  
the possibility exist of getting an exposure of LO nrens or nore  
In 8 hours due to thermal neutrons,

2, These chambers shall be handled, used, picked up and returned as  
the other chambers described before,

F. Others - the Health Physics Section keeps a number of pocket dos ine=  
ters (self-reading) for emergency cases, There are 3 types of these  
Gesinisters: full scale 200 mr, 5 r and thermal neutrons.

## Issuance

The Health Physics Section will issue the proper personnel monitoring instrument(s) subject to the following:

1, It is the responsibility of supervisors to notify the H.P.S. of Personnel under their supervision as well as visitors.

2, This supervisors note shall include the position ( job) assigned to said personnel to facilitate issuance of the appropriate per-

sonnel monitoring instrument(s), In the case of visitors the

area or areas to be visited shall be indicated,

information (above) should be in the hands of the Health

Physics Section at least 2 days before employee reports to work, or visitor arrives.

4. Upon receipt of notice from Supervisor, the Health Physics Section shall determine and issue the appropriate personnel monitoring instrument(s).



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Section VI

Radioactive Waste

General

For practical purposes radioactive wastes are divided into three broad classes.

Liquid Waste

Liquid waste shall be placed in appropriate labeled bottles or containers and a tag affixed by the person in charge indicating the radioisotope(s) present.

A, Radioisotopes shall be placed in separate containers as follows:

Short-lived radioisotopes shall be placed in a separate container from the medium-lived and long-lived ones. Short-lived radioisotopes shall be considered those with a half-life up to 20 days; medium-lived, those with a half-life from 20 days up to 210 days; long-lived, those with a half-life greater than 210 days,

2, Regardless of half-life no liquid radioactive waste shall be disposed of by pouring into drains, except those designated or approved by the Health Physics Section, Furthermore the H.P.S. shall approve the disposal whatever means is employed.

3. No liquid radioactive waste, whatever its origin, will be released with an activity greater than  $1 \times 10^{-5}$  Ci/l, This will assure an activity not greater than  $2.63 \times 10^{-5}$  Ci/l of sewage.

#### Solid Waste

Dry radioactive waste such as papers, towels, Kleenex, etc, shall be placed in appropriate labeled cans. Radioactive waste containers

shall never be used for deposition of uncontaminated material. The cans should be monitored as frequently as good judgement indicate? by the regular user(s) and if found to exceed permissible levels the Health Physics Section should be notified so that waste may be taken to disposal or storage vaults whichever the case may be.

#### Gaseous and Airborne Radioactive Waste

Radioactive Wastes in gaseous form shall be controlled so that their release to the atmosphere will not result in activity levels in wor-

King areas greater than the permissible levels indicated in NBS H5-69, when measured by appropriate monitors.

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#### Section VII

Radiation Source Equipment,

General

Accelerators, X-ray units, teletherapy units using radioisotopes as a source of radiation and other equipment capable of producing radiation are to be considered as sources of hazardous radiation. The Hazards associated with such equipment is mostly external and as such Section I applies.

In addition the following regulations are to be observed.

a

### Surveys

1, A survey shall be made for all energy levels at which the equipment operates.

2, A survey shall be made whenever there is a significant change in beam direction, shielding arrangement and type of target.

3. The Health Physics Section will carry on the surveys mentioned in 1 and 2 above, but it is the responsibility of supervisors to notify the section at least 2 days in advance of proposed work to be done

### Protection

1, High radiation intensity areas around facilities using this type of equipment are considered High Radiation Areas and regulations pertaining to such areas apply (See Section ITT-113).

2, Interlocks, mazes, warning devices (alarm systems), etc. shall be installed in such a way as to prevent entrance into the facility while the equipment is in operation which would result in an accidental exposure.

3. It is the responsibility of the person(s) in charge of these facilities to see that all safety equipment is working properly at all times and that appropriate warning signs, protective barriers, etc, are in use.

The Health Physics Section, upon request, will furnish and post warning signs, establish physical barriers and conduct surveys whenever requested (see A-I, 2 and 3 above).

i, Any person assigned to duties with I-ray and teletherapy units must familiarize himself with the National Bureau of Standards Handbook 60 "X-Ray Protection" and sign a statement to this effect. Only those persons signing this statement shall be authorized to work with I-ray Teletherapy units.

Be

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The signed statement will be kept by the Health Physics Section,

C, Radiation Source Statement:

In accordance with the regulations set in this section, part B,

sub-parts I, Form IIO, 663 shall be filed with the Health Physics

Section, before authorization be issued for work with X-ray and

teletherapy units.

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PUERTO RICO NUCLEAR CENTER

operated by

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO

For

U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Radiation Source Equipment Statement

Yo. (do not £111) Date

1 » hereby certify that in seconde

ance with Section VII-I, BL and C, T have read and fantliarized myself with:

National Bureau of Standards, Handbook 60, "X-Ray Protection",

Also I certify that (I an, I an not) qualified to operate the factlity(s)

described in the above mentioned handbooks

Signature

Approved by

Health Physies Section

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## Section VITE

### Protection of Construction and Maintenance Workers

Whenever construction and maintenance personnel are requested to work in a radiation area, the request for use of such personnel shall be approved by the H.P.S. To assure protection from radiation hazards, it is the responsibility of the supervisor(s) concerned to be certain that said personnel under their supervision are acquainted with the official radiation signs and obey the instructions given thereon. Furthermore, the supervisor(s) concerned shall submit at least 2 days in advance the name (s) of construction and maintenance personnel assigned to work in radiation area(s) to the Health Physics Section in order that the section can determine the preventive measures to be used (if any) and take the necessary steps. After completion of the job the supervisor(s) will notify the Health Physics Section in order for the Section to complete its termination procedures.

If needed and/or requested, a Health Physics Section staff member will give a briefing to construction and maintenance personnel on radiological safety.



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## Section IX

### Holidays and After Hours

The regular working hours at the Puerto Rico Nuclear Center are from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. and from 1:30 P.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, at which time the Health Physics Section and the Medical Office offer regular service,

involving use of radioactive substances and/or radiation sources on holidays and after hours (5:00 P.M. to 8:00 A.M. Monday through Friday) must be notified at least 2 days in advance to the Health Physics Section. It is the responsibility of the person(s) doing the work to insure that equipment and area monitoring meters are available.

Section will give final approval for work to be performed  
hours.

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## Appendix A

### Definition of Terms

#### Generals

In this section a number of terms are defined from the point of view  
of Health Physics or Radiological Safety, These definitions are generally  
in complete agreement with the definitions used in other related  
fields, but some differ to some extent.

#### Definitions:

Airborne Radioactivity Area ~ any room, enclosure, or operating area

Enriched fissile radioactive materials exist in concentrations in excess of the amounts specified in NBS Handbook 69 for (10 hour week or in concentrations which averaged over the number of hours in any work year which individuals are in the area exceed 25% of these values

Container = any object used for temporary or permanent containment of radioactive material regardless whether the container is used or not for protection from radiation (e.g. capsules, boxes of any kind of material, jars, beakers, cans, shipping containers, etc.).

Controlled area (Restricted) ~ area under the supervision of a radiation safety officer. This implies that a controlled area is one that requires control access occupancy and working conditions for radiation protection purposes. All facilities of P, R, U, L, C, wherever they are located are designated as controlled areas and subject of the rules, regulations and procedures given in this guide.

Critical Organ - in regard to maximum permissible exposure from external source of ionising radiation the critical organs are: the whole body, the head and trunk, the active blood forming organs, the gonads, the lens of the eyes, In regard to the maximum permissible concentration of a radioisotope in the body in air and water the critical organ is that organ receiving the radioisotope that results in the greatest damage to the body.

Curie ~ is the unit of activity of radioactive substance or material, Use to describe that amount of a radioactive material or substance in which the number of disintegrations per second is  $3.7 \times 10^{10}$  (i.e.  $3.7 \times 10^{10}$  dps). One millicurie (a one-thousandth of a curie) is  $3.7 \times 10^7$  dps; and one microcurie is one-millionth of a curie ( $3.7 \times 10^4$  dps =  $2.22 \times 10^6$  dps).

Disposable Clothing ~ clothing that can be disposed of right after use if necessary (e.g. shoe covers, gloves, etc. +

Exposure Dose (R) of X or Gamma Radiation - at a certain place is

Feature of the radiation that is based on its ability to produce ionization

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Health Physicist - any member of the Health Physics Section staff quali-

fied by Walsingham's criteria to carry out radiation surveys, sam-

pling, setting up calibration facilities, waste disposal methods and faci-

lities, etc, and all other normal duties commonly assigned to a Health

physicist.

Health Physics Surveyor ~ designates a Health Physics Section member

whose primary responsibility is that of surveying and monitoring in regard to

radiation safety.

High Radiation Area - means any area, accessible to personnel in which

TEs could receive in any one hour @ dose of 150 millirems.

could receive in any one hour @ dose of 150 millirems.

Maximum Permissible Concentration in Air and Vapor (MPC, H<sub>0</sub>) = is a

value expressed in  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{ft}^3$  of air or  $\mu\text{Ci}/\text{m}^3$  of water, to denote the maximum

Permissible concentration of a radioisotope in the corresponding medium,

Values of MPC are given in IBS Handbook 69.

Maximum Permissible Exposure or Dose (MPE), (MPD) - is a value, expressed in terms of radiation dose, to which a person should be exposed to a certain amount of radiation allowed to persons.

MPE values shall not be considered as tolerance values and efforts should be made to maintain radiation exposures to personnel below the recommended HP values,

These values are given elsewhere in this guide.

Permanent Storage Area - is an area solely used for storage of radioactive material of a certain type.

Radiation Absorbed Dose (rad) - is the unit of absorbed dose (energy imparted to matter per unit mass at place of interest), One rad is equal to 100 ergs/gm of material.

Radiation Area = means any area, accessible to personnel, in which there is radiation at such levels that a major portion of the body should receive in any one hour a dose (absorbed) in excess of 5 millirems, or in any 5 consecutive days a dose (absorbed) in excess of 150 millirems,

Radiation Safety Officer ~ to used to designate the Head of the Health

Fayeice Seotioae

Radiation Source ~ this tem, although it includes radioactive substances  
?in materials, is frequently used to designate aachines or equipnent that  
can be used a6 a source of radiation, like particle accelerators, X-ray  
diffraction nachines, etc.

Radiation sources aro divided into three estegories defined ast

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Category 1: Those sources which have such low intensity that they

Say be fated, inshielaeq for a Tid Stour day sietowt comeing

greater then the permissible daily dose of 60 nrens.

Category 2: Those sources which only can be handled at distances greater than 10 ft, or short times (less than 8 hr) without passing greater than a permissible daily dose of 60 mrem. This category includes intensities up to the maximum which can be handled outside of hot cells or other massive shields,

Category 3: Those sources of such intensity that they cannot be handled outside of hot cells or other massive shields.

Radioactive Substance, Material ~ any substance, material or item which emits or produces one or more types of ionizing radiation, whether this is an inherent characteristic or not, Radioactive standards, radioisotopes, calibration sources, are examples.

Relative Biological Effectiveness (RBE) - is the inverse ratio of the

dose of two different radiations necessary to produce the same biological effect.

Roentgen (r) - is the unit of exposure dose of X or gamma radiation.

One Roentgen is that exposure dose of X or gamma radiation such that the associated corpuscular emission per 0.001293 gm of air produces, in air, ions carrying 1 electrostatic unit (esu) of quantity of electricity of either sign,



Reenteen Zguivalent Han (ren) - is a unit of absorbed dose taking in

Easaeltration SEE Tap ror aan types of radiation.

4s used here it is the product of the absorbed dose in rads of parti-

cular type of radiation and ite corresponding REE (relative biological

effectiveness) value. Its use is limited mostly to radiation safety

atenents in regard to naximim permissible exposure to external radiae

?ion and maximum permissible concentration in water end air to interne]

radiation.

Shad. - as used in this guide implies an order indicating absolute neces

Sty of following the recomendations.

Spill ~ a used in this guide moane the lose or escape of radioactive

Raterial from a container by whatever meand this loss nay occur (eg

leakage, jolting, turn over, breakage of container, of

Temporary Storage Area - an area not solely used for storage of radioactive  
materials or substances, for example, a shielded area of a laboratory,  
a cabinet in a room, etc.

Uncontrolled Area (Unrestricted) - area not under the supervision of a  
radiation safety officer.

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APPENDIX

B

Table I

Decontamination Procedures

General ~ Floors, laboratory table tops, benches and other  
surfaces never shall be cleaned with a dry mop, brush or any  
other item that can be used for cleaning. Always use @

wet or oil mop, brush, paper towel, etc. to avoid a dust hazard,

asswere

Porcelain

(with full glaze)

Stainless Steel

Brass

Plastics

Paints

Wood

we

2

chremic acid cleaning solution

Tide or other detergent and vam

water

amoniun citrate, trisodium phos=  
phate, amoniun Oiflueride  
sane as glass

sane as (2) for glassware

Radiac wach

dilute nitric acta (108)

108 solution sodiun citrate or

other inorganic acid

hydrochloric aeia

wet abrasion

sene as (2) for glassvare

Radiae wash

brass polish

wet abrasion

sane as for (2) glassware

20% solution ammonium citrate

organic solvents

106 nitric or hydrochloric acid

sane as (2) for glassware

sodium citrate 10% solution

organic solvents (turpentine)

carbon tetrachloride

caustic soda or potash

wet abrasion

paint

If not painted or otherwise covered,

?but treated for porosity, plane and

collect shavings

paint

---Page Break---

Quintmun 1, same as for (2) glassware

2) Radiac wash

3, 10% solution of organic acid

iu, weak inorganic acid

Concrete and brick Ls wet abrasion

21 chiseling or complete removal

?This in many cases is the best

3s paint if smooth surface

Asphalt tile 1, Tide or other detergent and warm

water

2, replace

Rubber tile 1, Tide or other detergent and warm

water

24 Radiac wash

Br 12h avarochterte or ntrte aot

2 replace

Linoleum 1, same as for (2) glassware

22 carbon tetrachloride

3 kerosene, dilute mineral acids

Vinyl plastic tile 1, Mde or other detergent and ware

water

2, 10K hydrochloric or nitric acid

32 208 hydrochloric or nitric acid

Ls replace

Coranie tile 2, mineral acids

2) ammonium citrate or trisodium

Phosphate

Dust spills Contact Health Physics Department

since this requires a vacuum

cleaner,

Note:

1, If contamination is due to an alpha emitter and decontamination

to the acceptable limits can not be accomplished, but is very

close to it, if of short half-life, set apart until contamination

is within limits; if of long half-life coat with shellac, varnish

or paint if possible, in case of valuable equipment.

Inorganic acids should be used with caution. Acid fumes may be

toxic to personnel and there is also the possibility of corrosion.

3+ Organic solvents should be used with great caution as many are toxic and flammable

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## APPENDIX. B

### Personal Decontamination

1. Check contaminated area(s) with a survey meter

2. Wash thoroughly contaminated area(s) with warm water and Tide, or similar detergent for about 2-3 minutes, working a good lather.

Dry well with paper towel, Check contamination again, If it has been reduced, repeat step 2, two, three or four times as long as,



there is @ reduction in contamination counts until this falls

?below the maximum permissible contamination level. If after two consecutive washing counts remain the same without reaching tolerance level, proceed with step 3.

3+ Repeat step 2? using a hand surgical brush, being careful not to apply excess pressure so that the bristles scratch the skin

Repeat step 1, Do not wash more than three times, 2 minutes each.

If no results proceed with step 4 or 5

4. Moisten your hands and apply citric acid crystals. Rub for about 3 minutes. Repeat 1 again, IF not successful try 5.

5. If contamination is known to be due to fission products use titanium dioxide in step 5 instead of citric acid. However T.D, has proved good for other contaminants besides fission product:

?Add enough T.D, in the palm of your hands to form a paste available in paste forms

Work this paste well over contaminated area(s), but be sure to prevent hardening of the paste by adding water sparingly, for about 2 minutes. Rinse thoroughly with warm water, then use water and

?Tide and scrub with surgical brush assuring that no paste remains under and around fingernails or it will form a hard cake which is difficult to remove

Repeat step 1. If step 1 or 1a fails to reduce contamination below tolerance level proceed with step 5.

apply potassium permanganate (10ind,) ~ sulfuric acid solution

Freshly made solution of equal volumes of a saturated potassium per-

manganate solution and 1% (or 0.2%) sulfuric acid solution) and

scrub with brush for NOT more than 2 minutes. Rinse thoroughly

with warm water, Repeat step 1. (Exposure to solution for more

than 2 minutes may remove a layer of skin). Step 5 can be

repeated up to 3 times,

If and when decontamination is satisfactory proceed with (b)

to wash hands thoroughly with a freshly made 3% sodium ascorbate

(ascorbic acid) solution to remove the permanganate stains

then Wash with Tide and warm water, Dry well with paper towel.

HE all the methods described fail. You can continue to proceed with step & .

Apply lanolin or an equivalent hand cream to contaminated areas to soften skin.

- 3.

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Notes:

But Apply solutions to the neck, ears and face with absorbent cotton.

Keep two 100 cc bottles, one with a saturated solution

of potassium permanganate and the other with the 1%

sulfuric acid solution

Keep several 10 gm. packets of sodium acid sulfite to dissolve

in 200 cc of water.

4 Reminders: used paper towels, and brush if discarded, should

be dumped in the dry radioactive waste can.

+ Contaminated clothing shall be placed in a paper bag and dumped

in the corresponding container, but if the clothing is very

wet, place in plastic bag first,

Do not use oxalic acid NOR organic solvents for decontamination.

Before starting decontamination, if this is very low (as far as possible), you may carry on decontamination without help. Keep calm all the time, Avoid spreading contamination by grasping detergent container, solution bottles, etc, with a paper towel. If help is required, whoever assists in decontamination shall wear rubber glove:

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